

MARCH 1991 \$2

EBONY

DEBBIE ALLEN

**On
Power,
Pain,
Passion
And
Prime Time**

**Do Black Males
Need Special Schools?**

**The Whoopi Goldberg
Nobody Knows**

**The House
Akeem
Olajuwon
Helped
Design**



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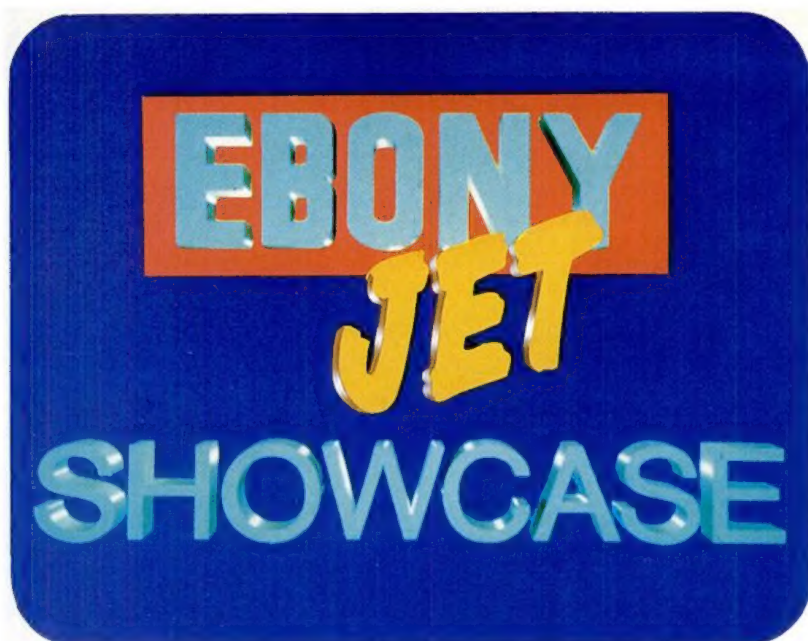
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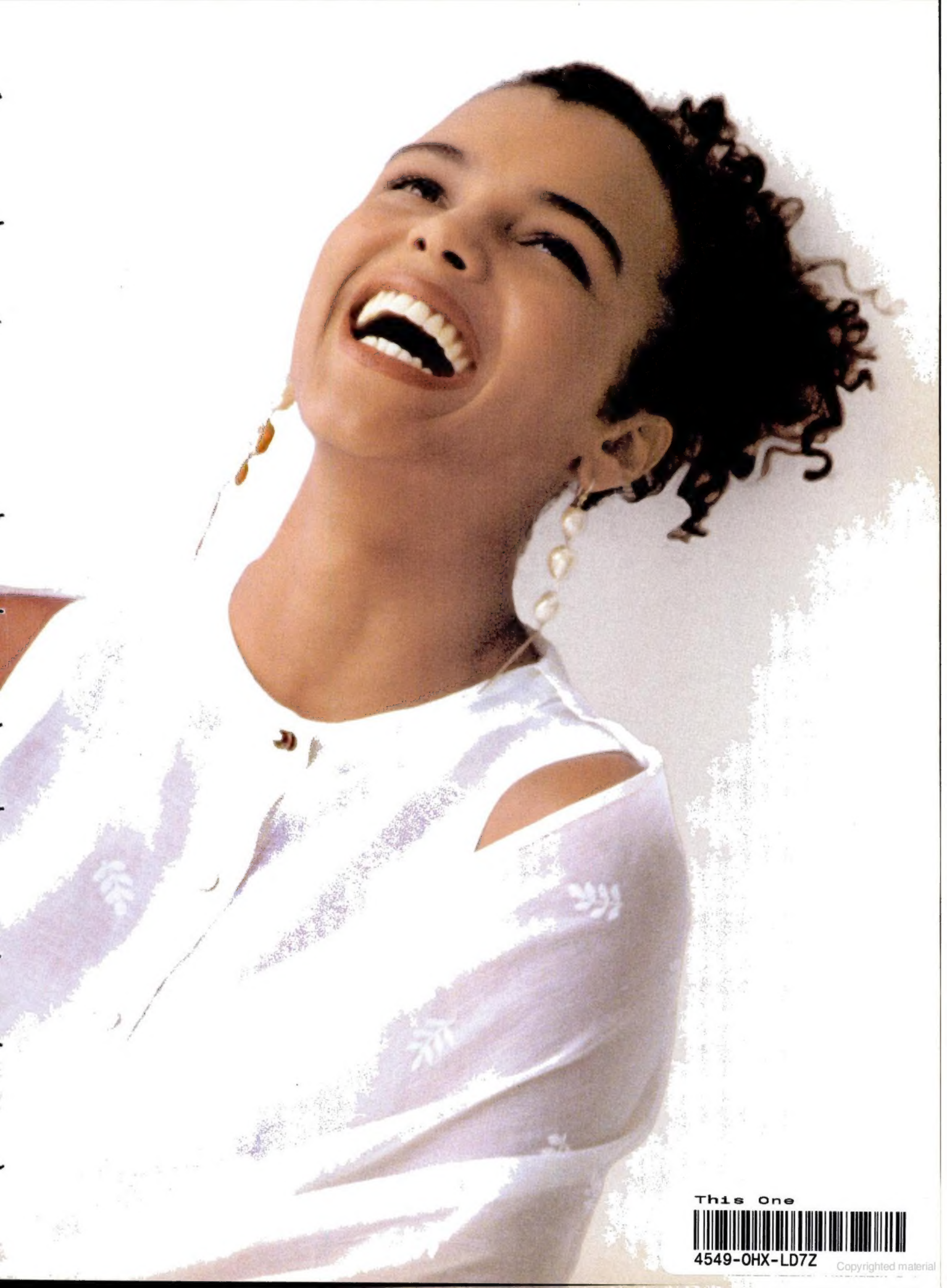
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CONTENTS

EDUCATION

- Do Black Males Need Special Schools?** 17
By Charles Whitaker

ENTERTAINMENT

- Debbie Allen On Power, Pain, Passion And Prime Time 24
By Laura B. Randolph
- Mariah Carey: 'Not Another White Girl Trying To Sing Black.' Daughter of Black father and White mother is hottest new artist 54
By Lynn Norment
- How To Make Your Kid A Star. Gifted children who love the limelight may be destined for show business 68
By Roxanne Brown
- The Whoopi Goldberg Nobody Knows 110

RECREATION

- Celebrity Hobbies.** 32
Unusual pastimes help well-known personalities relax

BUSINESS

- Business Success By 30.** 38
Select group of entrepreneurs make early breakthroughs
By Douglas C. Lyons
- The Biggest Black CPA Firm In The Country** 118

HOMES

- The House Akeem Olajuwon Helped Design. Houston Rockets star showcases his \$1.6 million lakeside home 46
By Renée D. Turner

COVER: Debbie Allen—who has found success as an actress, director, producer and choreographer—already has proven to be one of the most talented persons in the entertainment world, but she continues to look for new worlds to conquer. For a closer look at this renaissance woman, turn to page 24. Cover photograph by Harry Langdon. Makeup: Tara Posey. Hair: Aitch Peters, assisted by Renee/Vidal Sassoon Beverly Hills.

SPORTS

- The Black Bodybuilder** 60
Who Beat Arnold Schwarzenegger's Record. Lee Haney wins Mr. Olympia title seven straight times
By Marchel'le Renise Barber

CULTURE

- A Celebration Of Henry Ossawa Tanner.** First African-American artist of international acclaim is featured in major retrospective 76

PERSONALITIES

- The Way They Were. A** 98
revealing look at the young photos of Whitney Houston, Michael Jordan, Gov. L. Douglas Wilder and other celebrities

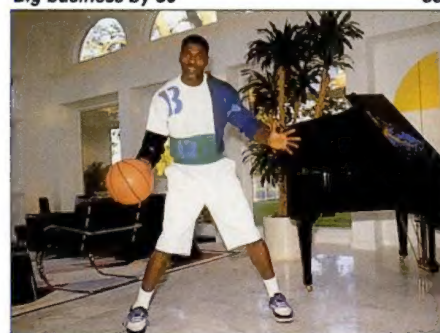
DEPARTMENTS

- Speaking Of People 10
Letters To The Editor 12
Backstage 14
Sounding Off 15
Strictly For Laughs 66
Date With A Dish: Fun Foods For Kids 86
Fashion Fair: Spring Fashions For The Global Man 92
House Call 108
EBONY Bookshelf 109
The EBONY Advisor 129
Memorable Photos 130



Big business by 30

38



At home with Akeem Olajuwon

46



How to make your kid a star

68



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Speaking Of People



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GREGORY HINES & ROBIN GIVENS

Your article, "Gregory Hines And Robin Givens star in *A Rage In Harlem*" (Jan. 1991), was excellent. I am a big fan of Gregory Hines. I believe he is a good actor and a great dancer.

My feelings about Robin Givens have changed since her divorce from Mike Tyson. I thought she was ashamed of being Black, but Ms. Givens knows who she is—a woman of color, who just happens to be beautiful and has a lot of talent.

JACQUELINE COHEN

Petersburg, Va.

I especially appreciate articles such as the one on Gregory Hines. Currently I'm studying music and video training in Miami Beach and it really encourages and inspires me when I read about the struggles and accomplishments of other brothers who have made it in the same field. It really gives me a good feeling and lets me know that with hard work, determination and a few sacrifices, dreams can come true.

BILLY BLAIR

Miami Beach, Fla.

When I saw Gregory Hines on the cover, I couldn't wait to get inside. It's about time. Not only is he very talented, he's simply gorgeous.

However, after I read the article, I was so disappointed. He gave up a family he loved for his career. I understand being immature at 24 but he goes on to say that he fell in love with his wife of 10 years and it was a very powerful sexual connection. She paid his rent, took him to dinner and bought shoes for his daughter and did it with so much love. Is it love or lust?

What's really sad is that after 10 years all he could say about her is that she's a great lover. If that's what kept them together, it can't be much of a marriage.

It gets even more disappointing when he said it hasn't been tough not speaking to his only brother. He also said that he will always see himself first and foremost as a tap dancer. As it is, Black men are only respected as entertainers and not thinkers in this country. How about thinking of yourself as a man, father or husband? What are you teaching your son? I still adore you, though.

M. WILLIAMS

Uniondale, N.Y.

MAN-SHARING

The article, "Man-Sharing: Thinking The Unthinkable" (Jan. 1991), came just in time, and it really hit home. First, I would like to applaud those ladies who shared their stories; it was reassuring to know that I was not the only woman in this situation with these feelings and thoughts.

Unfortunately, it took almost three years for me to realize that it was not going to change and that I needed to wake up. There were continuous disappointments, and the situation was beginning to affect my emotional stability and made me doubt my own self-worth. After deciding to run, I realized that this man was not worthy of me.

I would like to suggest to any woman in this

situation to get out; it won't change! It may hurt, or you may be alone, but believe me, it is only temporary. I'd rather be alone with peace of mind than in that situation. A man will do what is allowed, as long as it is allowed.

MARILYN BROWN

Towson, Md.

I read the article, "Man-Sharing," in almost disbelief. We as African-American women ask ourselves why our men aren't faithful to us? Then we ask why they won't make a commitment? Well, if we are going to knowingly share them with other women and tell them that we don't object if they have other women, what makes us think that they will ever be committed to just one? If this is going to be a "new wave of things to come in the '90s," then count me out. I refuse to lower my standards in order to join the ranks of those who obviously feel "a shared man is better than no man at all."

VALARIE HUGGINS

Greensboro, N.C.

This is one of the first times I have actually gotten the nerve to respond to an article. The "Man-Sharing" article had a lot of truths, however, I hope that the sisters that read it will do as I did and say "no more."

I find it appalling that we are justifying adultery through building the egos and libidos of men. Whatever happened to self-respect and pride. Part-time loving is full-time pain. Anyone who says this particular situation doesn't hurt, has no emotions. It all hurts. When you want someone and can't be with him or you want someone to hold you when you need to be held, or to be called because you were thought of . . . IT ALL HURTS!

I'd like to ask those women who boast about man-sharing, how proud are you of sharing that man when he says not tonight, or he just doesn't show when he said he would? You have no recourse because you allowed it to happen.

We keep going back to the reasoning that because there is a Black male shortage, we have to do it this way (man-sharing). Wake up, girls! You don't have to reduce your values for a few nights of good, passionate loving. That's usually what it ends up being. Stop making him feel free to have his cake and eat it too, when you are doing all the baking. I've always said I am not going to be a number 1 because it is always followed by 2, 3, 4. But I will be the only. And it can and will be the only way I'll have a relationship from this day forward.

SHARON T. WATERS

Charlotte, N.C.

Reading the article on man-sharing made me appreciate the morals and the values that I place on a monogamous relationship.

I agree with Dene Brown, "it's not a dilemma—it's a choice." A lot of women go into these relationships compromising themselves from the very beginning. I believe you should let a man know that you are a strong, loving, caring and understanding woman, but emphasize to him that you are not a fool! The man-sharing alternative should be an honest decision made by the woman.

BEATRICE MCKOY

Newark, N.J.

I would like to make a brief comment on your man-sharing article. I was both shocked and confused when I read about Dene Brown, one of the women mentioned in the article who advocates man-sharing with a married man. It is her option if she chooses to man-share, which I think is ridiculous, but who she chooses to do it with creates a circle of chaos. I think it is time for us (as

EBONY

Incorporating Black World Magazine

VOLUME XLVI, No. 5

MARCH 1991

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At Matthew A. Henson Elementary School in Baltimore, teacher Richard Boynton guides his all-male class of third graders through a geography lesson. This is the second year that Boynton has had this class of 25 boys, who were selected at random to participate in the experimental class engineered by Principal Leah Hasty. Positive results are already evident, Boynton says.

Do Black Males Need Special Schools?

Educational experiments with boys-only classes arouse hope and controversy

By Charles Whitaker

IT is a generally accepted, though widely lamented, fact that in most American inner cities, Black males—at every level from kindergarten through 12th grade—are turning off on education in epidemic numbers. In school districts across the country, Black males, in the main, are either failing or are disproportionately labeled as behavior problems, slow learners and truants.

To say that Black males are performing poorly in school is a gross understatement of the current crisis. Recent studies of school districts in Milwaukee, New Orleans and Dade County, Fla., among others, highlight the critical nature of the predicament. In all cities, Black males were shown to have dramatically higher suspension,

expulsion, retention and drop-out rates, and dramatically lower grade-point averages.

The Milwaukee study, for example, revealed that more than 80 percent of the 5,716 Black males enrolled at the time in the city's public high schools had less than a "C" average, and that 94 percent of the students expelled from the school system were Black males.

Sociologists, parents and educators agree that a variety of circumstances have led to this dismal state of affairs, including crippling poverty, a drug epidemic, the breakdown of the Black family and the lack of positive male role models in poor Black communities. One unchallenged sentiment is shared by all who review the statistics: Something has to be done to rescue



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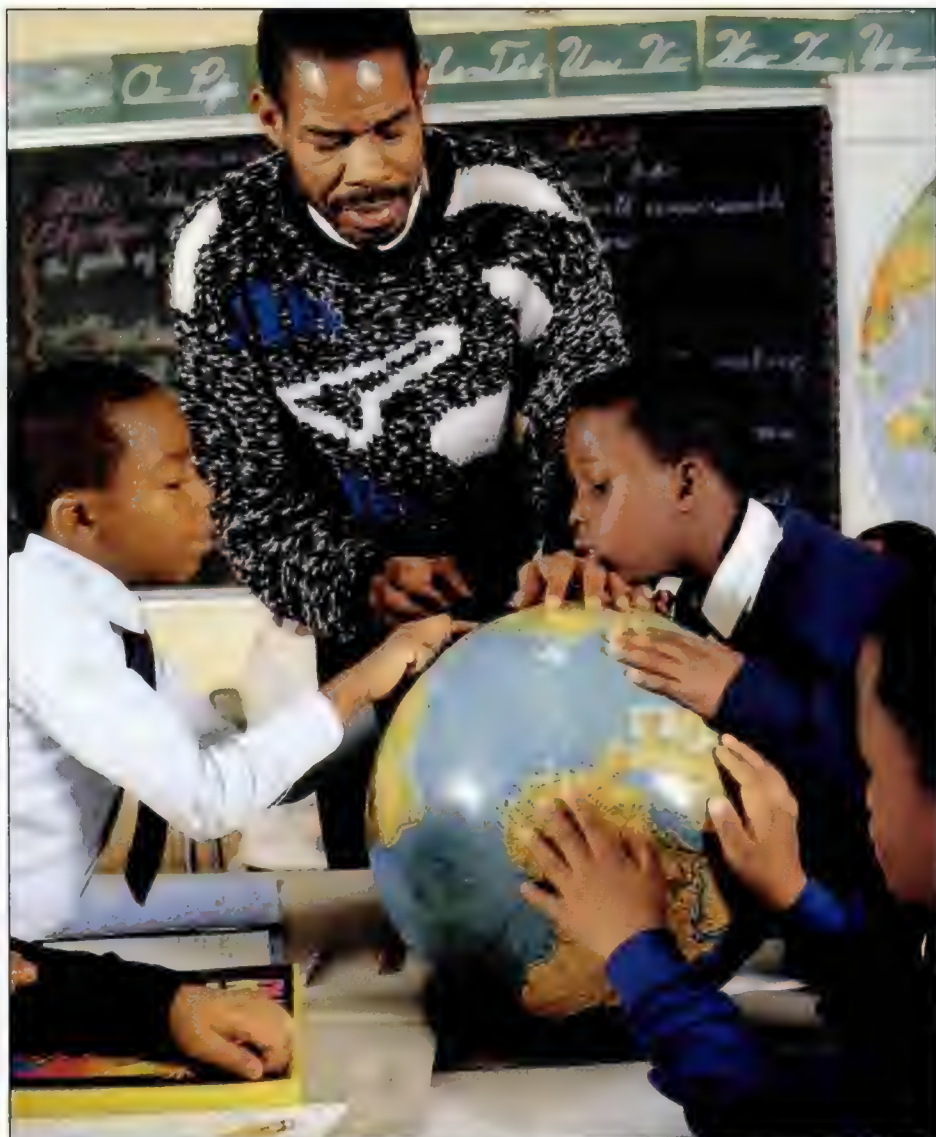
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Providing positive male role models in all-male academic settings will not solve all of the problems facing Black students in inner-city schools, but it is a step in the right direction, says Richard Boynton (above), who predicts that a few of his 25 students still may be lost to the perils of urban life.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS *Continued*

Project 2000, a program to give inner-city boys positive classroom role models. Project 2000 was begun in 1988 at Stanton Elementary School in Washington, D.C., and now includes two schools in Maryland as well. The program utilizes male volunteers from the corporate world and local colleges and universities who work as teaching assistants. In addition to tutoring the students, the volunteers accompany the children on field trips and provide a firm guiding presence. The volunteers commit to working with the students from first grade until they have completed high school.

"We're working on trying to change a generation," says Holland. "If we start with them now, we can have an impact on the kind of young men they are going to be in the next century."

Early reports from Stanton Elementary school, where a group of 47 boys have been studying under the auspices

of Project 2000 for nearly three years, indicate that the volunteers are making an impression. "Most of the results that we've seen have been behavioral," says Holland. "The boys are under control and the teachers just love it."

No one expects that a handful of experimental schools will cure the academic and social ills that every public school system and the entire country should address. The hope, as Richard Boynton of Matthew Henson Elementary School in Baltimore says, is that the experimental classes will lay a smoother path for many of these imperiled young men to follow.

"I tell people not to expect miracles from this class," Boynton says. "Yes, I think we'll get some doctors, some lawyers or some teachers out of this group who might not otherwise have considered that open to them. Realistically, I know I'll lose some, one or two will fall through the cracks. But if we can get through to a few of them, it's worth it."

Randall Cunningham out of uniform.

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to conquer*

By Laura B. Randolph

ONE morning last spring Debbie Allen phoned a fashionable New York boutique in search of an outfit to wear for an upcoming magazine photo shoot. After describing exactly what she wanted, the woman who, more than any other TV director, has become a star in her own right—a celebrity as big as any of her famous cast—got the shock of her life. Yes, she was told, the store had what she wanted. But no, they didn't want it worn in a Black magazine.

"I went off," says Debbie, nestling in the soft leather of her limo's backseat and staring out at the palm tree-lined streets of Beverly Hills. Actually she didn't just go off. She went to the store. "I walked in that store and said, 'I know Bill Cosby, Donald Trump and Jesse Jackson, and I will call the world and no one will ever buy your clothes.' When they tried to calm me by saying the clerk had made a mistake, I said, 'Really?' Then I want her fired. No, I demand she be fired.'"

As the top Black woman director in Hollywood, and as an internationally acclaimed star of Broadway and television, Allen is used to having her demands met. She made a lot of them in fact when, three years ago, she took over as producer-director of NBC's hit comedy, *A Different World*.

Though the series has always been highly rated, before Bill Cosby asked



Debbie to take charge of the weekly sitcom about life at a Southern Black college, it was pretty much a disaster. The debut season had ended with a seriously unhappy cast, staff and crew, and the resignation of former producer Anne Beatts. "There was a deep morale problem," concedes Debbie.

The first thing she did was watch every episode of the critically panned first season. By the time she clicked off

Behind the camera (above) and in front of the camera (far left), singer/dancer/actor/director Debbie Allen creates excitement. As director of the hit TV series, *A Different World*, she walks through a scene (below) with members of the cast. Some episodes on the program are made-for-TV versions of her real life.





DEBBIE ALLEN *Continued*

the VCR, she had her finger on the pulse of the major problem: the story lines. They were, she says bluntly, juvenile and trite. "I'm a graduate of a Black college so I have *lived* what Hillman is all about and it's not about that high school stuff they were dealing with," says the Houston-born *cum laude* graduate of Howard University. "College life is about young adults coming of age; about their intellectual, political and sexual maturity, and none of that was being dealt with."

What's more, says Allen with her trademark shoot-from-the-lip candor, the show was too White. "I said '*Come on, honey. This is a college where you go to the cafeteria and they have fried apples and grits for breakfast.*'"

Vowing to add soul and substance, Allen invited the cast to contribute ideas ("I couldn't believe no one had ever bothered to ask them what they were feeling"), then gathered the writers and insisted on doing the difficult, meaningful material she knew was at the heart of the Black campus experience. In fact, though it isn't public knowledge, many of the most penetrating episodes aren't fiction. They're made-for-TV versions of Debbie's real life.

This season when Jasmine Guy, who

Directing her sister, Phylicia Rashad (not shown) and Keshia Knight Pulliam in NBC/Disney movie, *Polly*, multitasked star (above and right) choreographs movements of technicians and actors. Her husband (above, r.) is Norman Nixon, former star of the Los Angeles Lakers and the Los Angeles Clippers.

plays spoiled Southern debutante Whitley Gilbert, visited a pricey boutique and was snubbed by a White clerk, it was a fictionalized account of what happened to Debbie while shopping for a gift for her husband, former pro basketball star Norman Nixon. "The clerk assumed because I was Black I couldn't afford anything in the store," she recalls of the incident in a Beverly Hills jewelry store.

In a flash of brilliance, the 5-foot-2 star, whose income reportedly tips into seven digits, let the clerk know just

how wrong she was. First, she asked to see the most expensive watch in the store, then she drove in the point of the stiletto—and the lesson. "I said '*Ring it up. That's the one I want.*'" says Allen, who is known to walk it like she talks it.

Similarly when Charnele Brown, who plays premed student Kimberly Reese, found her character dealing with the possibility of an unwanted pregnancy, the subject was very much on the mind of Allen, who'd lived through the experience as a freshman.

DON'T LET FEAR GET A HOLD OF YOU





With her children, Norman Jr., 3, and Vivian Nichole, 6, she shares quality time in dance studio in her home.

DEBBIE ALLEN *Continued*

When a girlfriend confided she was too terrified to see a doctor alone, Debbie agreed to take the test with her. Afterward, the doctor informed Debbie *she* was pregnant. "I said 'Oh no, baby. I haven't done it yet'," she says now, laughing at the memory. (A recheck of the tests revealed they were accidentally switched.)

Since those unforgettable days at Howard, the celebrated dancer/actress / director / producer / choreographer has moved from success to success. She's won acclaim on Broadway (she received two Tony nominations for her performances in *West Side Story* and *Sweet Charity*), television (she has two Emmys and a Golden Globe Award for her unforgettable portrayal of dance teacher Lydia Grant on six seasons of *Fame*), and now that she's behind the camera, she's one of the most sought-after TV directors in Hollywood. (In addition to *Different World*, she's directed episodes of *Family Ties*, *Quantum Leap*, and *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*.)

Privately, however, the journey hasn't been as smooth. In her early 30s after six years of marriage to independent record producer Win Wilford, Debbie realized she wasn't happy. But

admitting she wanted a divorce, she says, was the most painful decision of her life. "It was difficult because he was a very nice man," she says of her ex-husband. "But sometimes people just grow away from each other and that's a very painful thing to realize and then decide to do something about . . . A lot of people can just stay in a bad relationship and just falter for years and make each other miserable. I decided . . . that wasn't what I wanted to do."

"I always felt [Lakers general manager] Jerry West had it in for Norman. . . . He's a man and *that's* the reason they had to move him."

—Debbie Allen

Before she started dating Nixon, Debbie says she wasn't looking to fall in love again, least of all with the 6-foot-2 L.A. Lakers All-Star guard. They'd met years earlier in 1978 when both were starring in the basketball flick, *The Fish That Saved Pittsburgh*. Their love, however, was hardly evi-

dent from the start. Then in his early 20s, Nixon was five years younger than Debbie who, by her own admission, always preferred older men who were "more settled, didn't play games and could teach you something." Truth be told, Debbie's immediate reaction to Nixon was "cute kid." "It was like, 'Child, look at that little boy. He probably doesn't even have a credit card,'" she says laughing.

They became friends and in the process Debbie discovered the "cute kid" had a man's sensibilities. "Norman's never felt younger to me because there's something about him as a man that is just very strong, very powerful, very rooted in the ground," she says today. "I was very attracted to him because of those qualities."

When she and Wilford called it quits, that attraction deepened into desire, but Nixon's reputation as a ladies' man made Debbie deny it. "I just didn't want to accept it," she says of her early feelings for Nixon. "I didn't want them to be real."

Who could blame her? When they started dating, Nixon was a dyed-in-the-wool Don Juan. Rich, young, fine and famous, the L.A. Lakers superstar was one of the most lusted-after bachelors in the country. Debbie knew it.



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DEBBIE ALLEN *Continued*

She'd heard all the Norm Nixon and his women-in-every-city stories. Like him, they got around.

"Going into this relationship, Norman had women *everywhere* and it was like *how am I going to deal with all of that*," she confides. "I was also coming out of a marriage that wasn't working and I wasn't even sure about wanting to get married again or any of those things because I just wasn't certain of what I was doing."

Not only did Debbie know more than she realized, she had Nixon's number. And she had it in a way all the other women did not. "Norm was going through a period where he had too many women who were after him for what he had. I wasn't," she says matter-of-factly.

Her cool intrigued Nixon. As she puts it, "We weren't holding each other hostage for tomorrow." They were, however, seeing each other constantly and, sweet as that live-for-the-moment attitude was, Debbie discovered it had an unanticipated catch: she was falling in love. "There was a magic moment when I knew Norman was the one, but I didn't want to accept it," she reveals. "I said Nooooo. This cannot

"She was so tiny, but when I saw [my daughter] pull off the oxygen mask I knew she was . . . strong just like her mother."

—Norman Nixon

be. This is not happening."

But it was. And it was happening in a way Debbie had never before experienced. Finally, when she could no longer deny it, they connected. "There was a passion that existed between Norman and me that I just could not deny. It was too powerful," she says.

In 1984, Debbie and Nixon married in an intimate family-and-close-friends-only ceremony in a Santa Monica church. That same year, Debbie gave birth to their daughter, Vivian Nichole, who is now 6 years old. "I was so afraid when she was born," says Nixon of Vivian, who was born prematurely, weighing barely more than three pounds. "She was so tiny but when I saw her pull off the oxygen mask I knew she was okay. I knew she was strong just like her mother." Three years later, Debbie gave birth to their son, Norman Jr., who is now 3. "He

thinks he is a Ninja Turtle," says Debbie, who frequently brings both children to the *Different World* set.

Which is why, says Nixon, no one should be fooled by the glitter and flash of Debbie's professional life. With her, he says, family's always first. A few years ago when she danced at the Academy Awards, the curtain was barely down before she jumped into a limo and flew through the L.A. freeways to watch Nixon play in an across-town game. "I made it in time for the fourth quarter," she boasts.

Not only is Allen supportive, she is fiercely protective of Nixon. She is, for example, still upset about the Lakers' unceremonious trade of Nixon to the L.A. Clippers. "It was all done so badly," she says of Nixon's 1983 trade and subsequent retirement in 1987. "It's one thing for somebody to go out. It's another thing when somebody is trying to put you down. I always felt [Lakers general manager] Jerry West had it in for Norman. He just never felt Norman gave him proper respect. Well, Norman came to play ball. He didn't come to grin and joke and kiss ass. He's a man and *that's* the reason they had to move him."

With support like that, it's no



Saturday night at the movies.

wonder Nixon calls Debbie "an incredible wife and mother." "She's the best cook I've ever been with," he boasts of Allen who, though she has live-in help, cooks dinner for her family most nights herself. And though they've been married more than six years now, watching them together you can still feel the heat. "When I saw Norman I saw my children," says Debbie explaining the intensity of her feelings for Nixon.

And what about the future? At 40, Debbie says she hasn't foreclosed the possibility of more children. "I really wish I'd started having them earlier because I've always wanted a big family," she confides.

Professionally, she's planning to add feature films to her already bursting list of credits and is currently working on a script, based on the death of her father. Entitled *Good-bye Papa*, the film will be produced by Eddie Murphy Productions. And, fueled by her phenomenal success on *A Different World*, she'll soon begin production of her own series. "It's about a woman trying to hold her family together," she says of her upcoming as-yet-to-be titled show for NBC. No title for a show starring Debbie Allen? No problem. If it's anything like her real life, just call it "Superwife, Supermom, Superwoman".



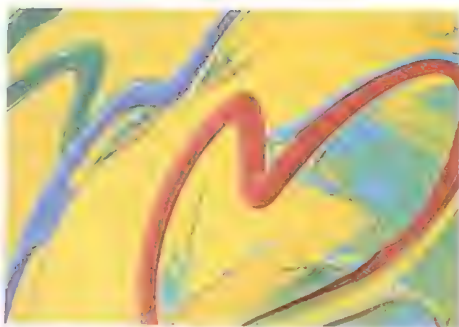
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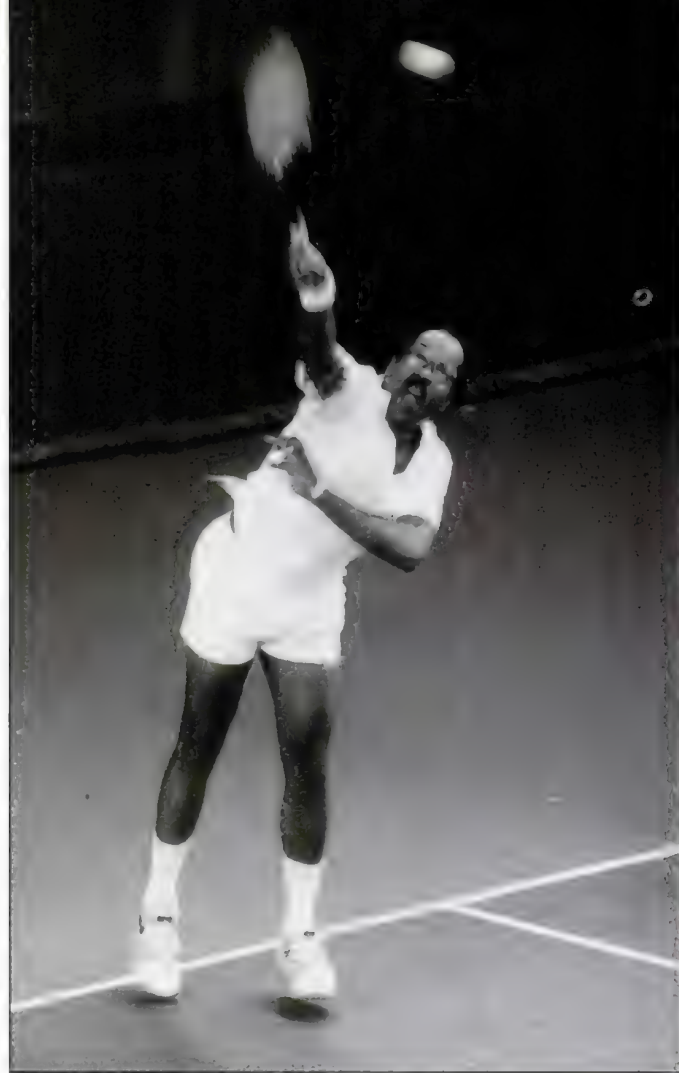
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Football star Willie Gault of the Los Angeles Raiders practices ballet off the field. But some politicians, actors and congressmen enjoy other physical activities. Rep. William Gray III, D-Pa. (above), exhibits skill in his favorite pastime, tennis, as he competes in a tournament in Philadelphia.

CELEBRITY HOBBIES *Continued*

But singer Donna Summer found another creative release in art. The longtime interest has nearly become a second career. Her oil and acrylic works have earned her respect from critics at galleries in Manhattan, Chicago and on the West Coast.

"Singing is my gift to other people; painting is God's gift to me," says the former disco diva who has painted since childhood. In the last three years, Summer has stretched her talents to explore sketching, water color and lithographs. "Color to me is relaxing," she says. "I start with color, then I draw a line and see where that line takes me."

Summer is in good company when it comes to celebrities who relax through art and handicrafts. Actor Darryl Bell of *A Different World* builds scale model cars, complete with motorized engines. And singer Francina Body (of the group Body) constructs doll houses, installing her own wallpaper,

carpet and electric lights.

"It's exciting for me to be underwater, exploring a different world. It's fearful as well as enlightening, seeing the different kinds of life."

—Rolando Blackman
Dallas Mavericks guard

Miniatures are fine for some, but other celebrities prefer to do their handiwork on real cars and houses. Such is the case with Keenen Ivory Wayans, the man behind Fox's *In Living Color*, who finds laying tile, attaching door knobs and doing other odd jobs around his new Los Angeles home "therapeutic." Cleveland Cavaliers power forward Larry Nance also enjoys fixing things, but his specialty is race cars. The accomplished me-

chanic, who can tear down and rebuild engines as easily as he sinks dunk shots, is prohibited from racing. So he enjoys the thrill of the sport by working on his Camaros. In the off-season, Nance plans to work on the pit crew for the powerful Top Sportsman Camaro—the Catch 22—he helped design.

Cars also are a passion for singer Freddie Jackson, but he enjoys collecting the miniature crystal variety. Jackson is among the millions of Americans with a passion for collecting and in that respect is joined by tennis star Zina Garrison, who collects stuffed animals from around the world; blues legend B.B. King, who surrounds himself with electronic toys and computerized gadgets, and Jamaican-born rapper Heavy D, who has taken a liking to hand-crafted wooden walking sticks.

Much can be said for the beauty people find in handicrafts, but many well-known personalities find the beauty of nature more intriguing. One case in point is Dallas Mavericks' Rolando







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SUCCESS BY 30 *Continued*

them off because I don't have a 9-to-5 [job]. They'll ask, 'How are you so busy? All you do is give parties?'"

Another young entrepreneur who abandoned the 9-to-5 grind is Aubrey Lewis Jr., a 29-year-old executive, who started his career in retail merchandising only to find his true calling as the owner of The Lewis Contracting Corp. in East Orange, N.J.

At first, the trek from a white- to blue-collar profession was almost unthinkable. A product of a well-to-do family, Lewis majored in graphic arts at Eastern Michigan University and landed his first job at Macy's department store in New York with the hopes of following in his father's footsteps. "My father's in retail," he says. "And being a wise kid, I said, 'This guy knows a lot of people. So, if I get into retail. . .'"

But Lewis grew tired of the slow pace and infrequent promotions. He soon found a more challenging opportunity in 1985 as an assistant project manager for the Herbert Construction Corp. on the site of the World Financial Center project. He worked hard, using his experience from the U.S. Army Reserves to bring leadership and organization to his work. He soon earned his workers' respect and his supervisor's trust.

Within six months, his immediate boss opened his own contracting firm, Vel Enterprises, and took Lewis with him as a project manager. "I was doing everything, from sales to project manager, to marketing to running the job," Lewis says. "Vel gave me an opportunity to do it all. At a young age, I was cutting \$20 million deals."

Despite some early successes, the venture folded in 1988. Lewis returned to his old job at Herbert, determined to strike out on his own. Three months later, he started out with small painting and carpentry work to build his cash reserves for larger jobs.

His firm grew and Lewis borrowed \$90,000 from his father to buy and rehab a decaying six-unit apartment building in East Orange, N.J. The building, the contractor's first major rehab project, is now a beautifully renovated structure and profit-making asset. Its value has skyrocketed to about \$360,000, and the rent from tenants helps support the firm's cash flow. Lewis repaid his father's loan—within three months.

Today, Lewis Contracting Corp. is a thriving enterprise. It has several corporate contracts and municipal jobs



Buying low and selling high is one of Butler's guiding principles. He has bought and sold several businesses and earned hefty profits.

with the cities of East Orange and Newark, N.J., and Lewis wears the blue-collar label proudly. "I happen to like the down-to-earth people in construction," he says. "You have a lot of people who work hard, simple people. That's not to say the corporate structure doesn't have that. But, carpenters are different from corporate people."

Taking a different approach, Lorenza P. Butler made his mark on the corporate world with a simple business philosophy: "Buy low and sell high," he says. "I'm not an operator. If I operate something, I'd run it into the ground. I learned that lesson a long time ago."

Butler apparently learned his lesson well. He is only 30 years old and the principal owner and chief executive officer of WLTH-AM radio in Gary, Ind. He plans to buy more radio stations in Arkansas and Louisiana.

A native of Marshall, Texas, Butler attended Clark Atlanta University on an exchange program from Wiley College. He went on to take a marketing position with Miller Brewing Co. in

Washington, D.C. The job put him in contact with several leading business and civic leaders and spurred his interest in becoming an entrepreneur. "To make a long story short, Jesse [Jackson] was boycotting," he says. "So I took the opportunity to learn about developing franchise proposals."

"You don't have to be a millionaire to be successful in life. You just have to have cash flow."

—Lorenza P. Butler

Following Jackson's lead, Butler sought information on owning franchises from two firms that had been targeted for economic boycotts—Burger King and The Southland Corp. By 1983 he was a finalist for franchises at both firms. But he suddenly changed directions, deciding to pursue a Houston beer distributorship, partly to be closer to his mother.

The beer venture cost about \$2 million. Butler, armed with only a \$5,000 loan from his parents, began approaching several local banks for financing. He was turned down by six banks before two others agreed to lend him the money. The 23-year-old marketing rep was now the owner of his own company. "It was persistence," he says, downplaying the complexity of the sale. "There was a deal, it was available and it made good sense. I showed them how it made sense and it didn't take a damn genius to do it. Beer distributorships are not made for geniuses."

Butler didn't stop with beer. The very next year he bought a tobacco and

Continued on Next Page

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By Lynn Norment

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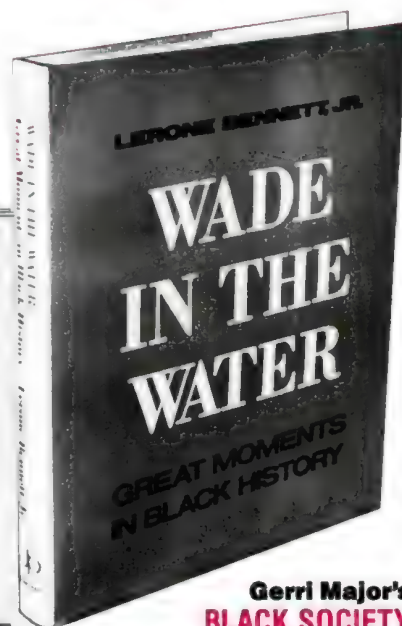
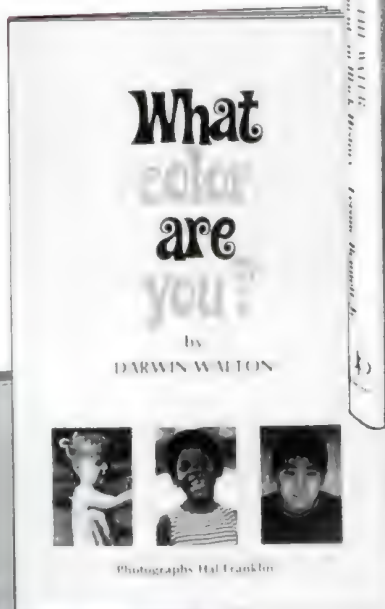
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This provocative and insightful book answers the many questions which evolved around the many aspects of "black society." Written from the point of view of a woman who has spent half-a-century chronicling the activities of this often alluded to, but largely unknown class of Americans.

ISBN: 0-87485-075-4

\$25.00

**BOOK DIVISION
JOHNSON PUBLISHING CO. INC.
820 S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL 60605**



Influenced by Gladys Knight, Aretha Franklin and other Black singers, Carey started writing songs in high school. She is a big gospel music fan.

MARIAH CAREY *Continued*

Tommy Mottola a demo. In return, he gave her a "Great—another demo tape" smile, and Carey assumed it was another dead end. But on leaving the affair, Mottola popped the demo into his limo's tape deck. He liked what he heard so much that he immediately returned to the party to find Carey. But she had already left.

Having no address or telephone number did not deter Mottola from tracking her down. Ironically, another record company had expressed mild interest in Carey, and a bit of a bidding war evolved.

In December 1988, she signed with CBS' Columbia Records. Within a week she wrote "Vision of Love" for her debut album. In fact, she wrote lyrics for all 11 songs on her self-titled LP, and she even produced "Vanishing."

Columbia went all-out to promote the lissome artist with the clear, passionate seven-octave voice, flexing a little clout to get her the coveted task of singing "America The Beautiful" at the 1989 NBA finals, where she was exposed to 16 million people. Both "Vision of Love" and "Love Takes Time" have gone gold, and the album has sold

more than two million copies. Ironically, Carey wrote "Love Takes Time" for a second LP. But when Mottola heard it, he insisted on stopping the presses and adding the song to her debut album, even though some recordings were already in record stores.

Carey says she was just as startled as anyone that "Vision of Love" hit so big because "it isn't hip-hop music, it isn't house music, and it isn't rap. But I am so glad and thankful," she says. "That song really represents everything in my life. It is a song from the heart."

Consider the lyrics: "Prayed through the nights/Felt so alone/Suffered from alienation/Carried the weight on my own/Had to be strong/So I believed/And now I know I've succeeded/In finding the place I conceived."

Just why would such a seemingly tender womanchild write these words of despair and sing them with such deep passion?

"Well, just because you are young doesn't mean that you haven't had a hard life," she says with a knowing little smile. "It's been difficult for me, moving around so much, having to grow up by myself, basically on my own, my parents divorced. And I al-

ways felt kind of different from everyone else in my neighborhoods. I was a different person—ethnically. And sometimes that can be a problem. If you look a certain way everybody goes, 'White girl,' and I'd go, 'No, that's not what I am.'"

Carey chose to express her innermost feelings in her songs rather than become depressed and bitter. "You really have to look inside yourself and find your own inner strength, and say, 'I'm proud of what I am and who I am, and I'm just going to be myself.'"

And for Carey, that translates into being a "respected" singer and songwriter. But her phenomenal success has not inflated her head or her bank account, for she has yet to realize any monies from the album's success. The days when she and two struggling roommates stretched out a boxed macaroni dinner for a week are still too vivid, she says.

"And, no, I don't let stuff like this go to my head, because success isn't a scale for talent," says the singer. "I don't want to be a 'big star,' but I want to be respected as an artist. I'm delighted and very thankful [that people like her work]."

"This is my love," she says emphatically. "I want to sing for the rest of my life."

At this point, she sings every chance she gets. In the studio. During promotional stops. In the shower. Around her one-bedroom Upper East Side Manhattan apartment. To the boyfriend/singer she's known since high school. To her two Persian cats.

"Singing makes me incredibly happy," she says. "Music makes me *immeasurably* happy."



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The Black Bodybuilder Who Beat Arnold Schwarzenegger's Record

Lee Haney wins Mr. Olympia title seven straight times

By Marchel'le Renise Barber

ALTHOUGH Lee Haney has never worn a tiara, he knows what it's like to win the Miss America pageant. Haney, a 5-foot-11½, 240 lb. hunk, is the reigning 1990 Mr. Olympia. But unlike the Miss America winner who reigns for one year, Haney has held his title for seven years.

When he captured his seventh Mr. Olympia title last September, he not only pocketed \$70,000, but he also broke Arnold's Schwarzenegger's record of six consecutive wins.



Showing victory sign, Lee Haney displays his seventh straight Mr. Olympia medallion. Haney's recent victory breaks Arnold Schwarzenegger's (left) record of six consecutive titles, but Haney, who has worked out with Schwarzenegger, insists the two are still friends.

Quality Is Job 1.











What They Saw Everywhere

— 1940s



How To Make Your Kid A STAR

By Roxanne Brown

Gifted children who love the limelight may be destined for show business



Reaching for stardom, Chicagoan Jonese Burnett, 11, hams it up at an audition for a television commercial. She appeared in her first print advertisement when she was just 9 months old, and now exhibits the demeanor of a seasoned professional. The young actress has yet to experience stage fright. "The only time I get nervous is when I have a spelling bee in school," she says.



DO you have a baby who smiles like a pro whenever a camera is aimed his or her way, but hasn't quite uttered the first word yet? Talented kids seem to be born with an ability to shine for

an audience, and more and more Black parents are recognizing and nurturing their kids' show biz potential.

Denise Moss, mother of Eric, 11, swears that her son exhibited talent

when just 5 months old by posing for the camera. "He did everything early and with a showmanship air," she says. "When he was old enough to ask for a glass of milk, he wanted it poured in a stem glass." Eric secured his first print ad (for K-Mart) when he was four years old. Since then, he has done a number of commercials and is a regular on a Detroit-area children's TV show. A gifted singer, he studies violin, piano and voice, and is scheduled to sing at a Piston's basketball game this season.

A name that easily rolls off the tongues of Chicago child-talent agents is that of Jonese Burnett, 11, who was in the business before she could talk. Jon-



On the *Rocky V* set, Kia Crittenden (left) of New York, takes time out from filming for a photo with movie principal, Sage, the real-life son of Sylvester Stallone. Currently making a public service film for teens with Martin Scorsese, Kia makes no bones about what she likes best about acting. "It's the glamour," she says.

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Spring '91 Itinerary (Partial Listing)

CITY	PLACE OF SHOW	DATE	TIME
Texarkana, TX	Perat Theater	Mon., 3/11	8:00 p.m.
Sulphur Springs, TX	Hopkins County Civic Center	Tues., 3/12	8:00 p.m.
Ft. Worth, TX	Tarrant County Convention Center	Thurs., 3/14	8:00 p.m.
Tulsa, OK	Performing Arts Center	Fri., 3/15	8:00 p.m.
Dallas, TX	Music Hall at Fair Park	Sun., 3/17	5:00 p.m.
Waco, TX	Waco Convention Center	Tues., 3/19	8:00 p.m.
Bryan, TX	Earle Rudder Auditorium	Wed., 3/20	8:00 p.m.
Houston, TX	Texas Southern Univ./Hanna Hall	Sat., 3/23	8:00 p.m.
San Antonio, TX	Trinity Univ./Laure Auditorium	Sun., 3/24	4:00 p.m.
Tucson, AZ	Ramada Inn-Downtown	Fri., 3/29	8:00 p.m.
Phoenix, AZ	Civic Plaza Symphony Hall	Sat., 3/30	8:00 p.m.
Las Vegas, NV	Caesars Palace Hotel	Sun., 3/31	7:00 p.m.
Bakersfield, CA	Convention Center	Wed., 4/3	8:00 p.m.
Anaheim, CA	Inn At The Park Hotel	Thurs., 4/4	8:00 p.m.
San Bernardino, CA	National Orange Showgrounds	Fri., 4/5	8:00 p.m.
San Diego, CA	Spreckles	Sat., 4/6	8:00 p.m.
Los Angeles, CA	Wiltern Theater	Sun., 4/7	3 & 8 p.m.
Thousand Oaks, CA	California Lutheran Univ.	Tues., 4/9	8:00 p.m.
Pasadena, CA	Pasadena Civic Auditorium	Wed., 4/10	8:00 p.m.
Fresno, CA	Warriors Theatre	Thurs., 4/11	8:00 p.m.
Stockton, CA	Warren Atherton Auditorium/Delta College	Fri., 4/12	8:00 p.m.
San Francisco, CA	Masonic Auditorium	Sat., 4/13	8:00 p.m.
Oakland, CA	Paramount Theater	Sun., 4/14	5:00 p.m.
Sacramento, CA	Sacramento Community Center Theater	Mon., 4/15	8:00 p.m.
Santa Rosa, CA	Rohbert Park Performing Arts Center	Wed., 4/17	8:00 p.m.
Portland, OR	Portland Hilton	Fri., 4/19	8:00 p.m.
Seattle, WA	Sheraton Seattle	Sat., 4/20	8:00 p.m.
Tacoma, WA	Best Western Executive Inn	Sun., 4/21	5:00 p.m.
Anchorage, AK	West High School Auditorium	Tues., 4/23	8:00 p.m.
Colorado Springs, CO	Pikes Peak Center	Sat., 4/27	8:00 p.m.
Denver, CO	Regency Hotel	Sun., 4/28	2:00 p.m.
Cheyenne, WY	Cheyenne Civic Center	Tues., 4/30	8:00 p.m.
Omaha, NB	Civic Auditorium-Music Hall	Fri., 5/3	8:00 p.m.
Des Moines, IA	Hoyt Sherman Auditorium	Sat., 5/4	8:00 p.m.
Minneapolis, MN	Raddison, Bloomington	Sun., 5/5	5:00 p.m.
Waterloo, IA	Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center	Tues., 5/7	8:00 p.m.
Davenport, IA	River Center	Wed., 5/8	8:00 p.m.
North Chicago, IL	University of Health Sciences/School Medical School	Sat., 5/11	8:00 p.m.
Rosemont, IL	Holiday Inn	Sun., 5/12	4:00 p.m.
Hamilton, Canada	Convention Center	Thurs., 5/16	8:00 p.m.
Toronto, Canada	Metro Convention Center Theater	Fri., 5/17	8:00 p.m.
Montreal, Canada	Sheraton Center	Sun., 5/19	5:00 p.m.



A Celebration Of **HENRY OSSAWA TANNER**



First African-American artist of international acclaim is featured in major retrospective

THANKS in part to the Black Renaissance of the '60s and '70s and the Black art resurgence of the '80s, there has been a major revival of interest in Henry Ossawa Tanner, the first African-American artist to win international recognition.

Fifty-four years after his death, the Philadelphia Museum of Art has mounted the first major retrospective on the work of the artist who fled American racism in 1891 and spent most of his adult life in Paris.

Most celebrated for his portrayal of



Henry O. Tanner, an African-American artist who was reared in Philadelphia, won unprecedented international acclaim. The painting above is of his mother, Sarah Elizabeth Miller Tanner.

Biblical subjects—particularly in works like *The Annunciation*, which is symbolic of African-American emancipation—Tanner was also known for his early portrayal of Black life in paintings like *The Banjo Lesson*. But whether painting a Biblical scene or a landscape, he was a master in the use of color, light and shade. He also was one of a handful of American artists whose efforts established American art as an independent force with its own non-European identity.

The Philadelphia retrospective, which has attracted wide media attention, features some 90 paintings, including the masterpieces on the following pages. The exhibition will travel later this year to major museums in Detroit, Atlanta and San Francisco.

The largest private contributors to the exhibition were Merton Simpson, a Tanner fan and New York gallery owner, and the estate of Tanner's niece,



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A man and a woman are embracing in a romantic pose. The woman, on the left, has long dark hair and is wearing a yellow dress with a wide neckline and a large, ornate bracelet on her right wrist. She is smiling and looking towards the man. The man, on the right, is wearing a red suit jacket over a white shirt and a red tie. He is also smiling and looking towards the camera. They are standing in front of a large, illuminated sign that reads "Salem". The sign has a green background with the word "Salem" in white, stylized letters. Above the sign, there is a large, glowing, abstract shape in shades of orange and red. The overall scene is set against a dark blue background.

Salem

Fresh
on the scene



TANNER *Continued*

Sadie T.M. Alexander. The exhibition does not feature one of the artist's most celebrated works, *The Thankful Poor*, which brought the highest price for a Tanner—a reported \$250,000—when it was bought by William and Camille Cosby.

Despite the absence of this painting, the Philadelphia exhibition is a long-overdue American celebration of the pioneering African-American artist. Tanner, a descendant of a long line of distinguished leaders, developed an interest in art at the age of 13 and studied for two years at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. Limited by the racial perceptions of his White contemporaries, he left America in 1891 and scored a major success in 1895 with *The Sabot Maker*. In 1899 the Philadelphia Museum bought *The Annunciation*. In 1923, the French government made him a Chevalier of The Legion of Honor. He died in his sleep at age 78 in his Paris apartment in 1937.



The Annunciation, for which the artist used his wife, Jessie, as a model, was one of Tanner's most famous portrayals of a Biblical figure, Mary. It shows his masterful use of light. At left, he captured on canvas educator Booker T. Washington, who wrote that people who stopped to look at Tanner's work at museums did not ask whether he was Black. "They simply knew that he was able to produce something which the world wanted..."

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The Sabot Maker







PIZZA FRANKS

- 1 tablespoon margarine
- ¼ cup chopped onion
- ¼ cup chopped green pepper
- ¼ teaspoon dried oregano, crushed
- 1 16-ounce package turkey franks
- Jarred pizza sauce
- ½ cup shredded mozzarella cheese or cheddar and mozzarella mixture
- Hot dog buns, optional

Melt margarine in small saucepan over medium heat. Add onion, green pepper and oregano; cook and stir until just tender, about 3 minutes. Heat oven to 350°. Make a lengthwise slit in each frank, being careful not to cut through underside. Spread about 1 teaspoon pizza sauce in each frank opening. Stuff with part of the cheese.

Add vegetable mixture, dividing evenly between franks. Place in 11 x 7-inch baking dish and sprinkle franks with remaining cheese. Bake uncovered for 15 to 20 minutes. Serve in buns or cut each frank into 5 pieces and serve as snack.

Yields 8 stuffed franks

HONEY RAISIN BRAN MUFFINS

- 1¾ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 2½ cups Raisin Bran cereal
- 1¼ cups milk
- ½ cup honey
- 1 egg
- ¼ cup vegetable oil

Combine flour, sugar, salt and baking

powder; set aside. Combine Raisin Bran cereal, milk and honey in large bowl; let stand 2 minutes or until cereal is softened. Add egg and oil; beat well. Add dry ingredients to cereal mixture, stirring only until combined. Portion batter evenly into 12 greased 2½-inch muffin-pan cups. Bake in 400° oven about 20 minutes or until lightly browned; serve warm.

Yields 12 muffins

EASY VEGETABLE SOUP

- 1 10½-ounce can condensed beef broth
- 1 soup can water
- 1 16-ounce can tomatoes
- 1 bay leaf
- ½ teaspoon Italian seasoning, crushed
- 1 stalk celery, sliced
- ½ cup elbow macaroni or other pasta

Continued on Next Page



Dessert can be delicious and nutritious when children feast on light and healthful treats like Yogurt and Fruit Sundaes, and Giant Raisin Bran Cookies. Both can be whipped up in a jiffy!

- 2 10-ounce frozen mixed vegetables
 ½ teaspoon sugar

Pour broth and water into large saucepan; add tomatoes with liquid to pan. Cut tomatoes with kitchen scissors. Add bay leaf, Italian seasoning and sugar. Bring broth mixture to boil; add celery, macaroni and frozen vegetables. Return mixture to boiling; cover and reduce heat. Simmer 15 to 20 minutes or until all vegetables are done.

Yields 6 to 8 servings

GIANT RAISIN BRAN COOKIES

- 2 cups Raisin Bran cereal, crushed to 1½ cups
 1 cup whole-wheat flour
 1 cup all-purpose flour
 1 teaspoon baking soda
 ¾ cup margarine, softened
 ¾ cup sugar
 ½ cup packed brown sugar
 2 eggs

Combine cereal, flours and soda; set aside. Beat margarine and sugars until light and fluffy in larger mixer bowl. Add eggs; beat well. Stir in cereal mixture, thoroughly combining. Drop by scant ¼ cup measure onto ungreased cookie sheet. Bake in 350° oven about 14 minutes or until lightly browned.

Yields about 18 cookies

YOGURT AND FRUIT SUNDAES

- Vanilla yogurt
 Sliced strawberries, sliced peaches or sliced bananas
 Chopped nuts
 Whipped cream if desired

Spoon some fruit into bottom of sundae glass; top with vanilla yogurt. Spoon or arrange fruit on top of yogurt. Sprinkle nuts and top with whipped cream.

Yields 1 serving

PASTA AND VEGETABLE TOSS

- 3 tablespoons margarine or butter
 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
 2 cups milk
 1 12-ounce package bite-size pasta, cooked and drained
 1 cup cooked broccoli
 ½ cup cooked sliced carrots
 ½ cup shredded milk cheddar or Monterey Jack cheese

Melt margarine in large saucepan. Stir in flour; cook for 2 minutes. Add milk and stir. Continue cooking over low heat until sauce thickens. Add cheese and stir until cheese melts. Add pasta,

broccoli and carrots. Season with salt and pepper if desired. Stir until vegetables are coated. Cook until vegetables are hot.

Yields 6 to 8 servings

OVEN-FRIED FISH PIECES

- 1 pound fish fillet
 2 tablespoons yellow cornmeal
 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
 ¼ teaspoon salt
 ¼ teaspoon paprika
 Dash pepper
 ¼ cup milk
 3 tablespoons margarine or butter, melted

Move oven rack to position above middle of oven. Heat oven to 500°. Cut fish fillets into 2 x 1½-inch pieces. Combine cornmeal, flour, salt, paprika and pepper. Dip fish into milk; coat with cornmeal mixture. Place fish pieces in generously greased rectangular pan, 13 x 9 x 2 inches. Drizzle margarine over fish. Bake uncovered until fish flakes very easily with fork, about 10 minutes.

Yields 3 servings

OVEN-BAKED DRUMSTICKS

- ½ cup all-purpose flour
 1 teaspoon salt, optional
 ½ teaspoon paprika
 ¼ teaspoon pepper
 6 chicken drumsticks
 ¼ cup butter or margarine, melted


Heat oven to 425°. Mix flour, salt, paprika and pepper in a bowl. Dip chicken drumsticks into butter; roll in flour mixture to coat. Arrange in an ungreased square pan, 8 x 8 x 2 inches. Bake uncovered until done, about 50 minutes.

Yields 6 drumsticks

VEGGIE BITES

- ⅓ cup butter or margarine, melted
 1 egg
 2 teaspoons water
 ½ cup all-purpose flour
 ½ teaspoon salt, optional
 2 cups of fresh vegetables (broccoli flowerets or cauliflowerets, ¼-inch carrot slices, ½-inch zucchini slices, ½-inch strips green or red pepper)

Heat oven to 450°. Brush bottom of rectangular pan, 13 x 9 x 2 inches, with about 1 tablespoon of melted butter.



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For that teenager who is learning to watch what he or she eats, low-calorie Melon Star Salad makes the perfect snack. Wedges of melon are topped with cottage cheese and strawberries.

Beat egg and water with a fork in a shallow dish. Mix flour and salt in another shallow dish. Dip about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the vegetables into egg mixture. Remove 1 vegetable piece at a time with a slotted spoon, fork or hand; roll in flour mixture to coat. Place in pan. Repeat with remaining vegetables. Pour remaining butter carefully over each vegetable piece and into pan. Bake uncovered, turning once, until vegetables are crisp-tender and coating is golden brown, 10 to 12 minutes; drain. Sprinkle lightly with grated Parmesan cheese if you like.

Yields 2 cups vegetables

FUN SALADS

SMILING BUG: Put a canned peach half on a lettuce-lined plate. Use raisins for eyes, cherry stems for antennae and half a maraschino cherry slice for mouth. The legs are made of carrot curls.

FRIENDLY DOG: Put a canned pear half on a lettuce-lined plate. Cut a prune lengthwise in half and remove the pit. Place one of the prune halves at the large end of the pear half for the ear. Use a raisin for the eye. Place a cherry half at the top of the narrow end of the pear half for the nose. Use apple wedges for the collar.

HAPPY BUNNY: Put a canned pear half on a lettuce-lined plate. Use raisins for eyes, a strawberry (with a toothpick) for the nose. Cherry stems for whiskers and American cheese for the ears.

MELON STAR SALAD

- Lettuce leaf
- 5 melon wedges (cantaloupe, honeydew or watermelon)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup creamed cottage cheese
- Strawberry slices

Place lettuce leaf on plate. Arrange melon wedges on lettuce leaf in a circle with the points outward to make star. Spoon $\frac{1}{2}$ cup cottage cheese into center of melon star. Garnish with strawberry slices if desired.

Yields 1 serving

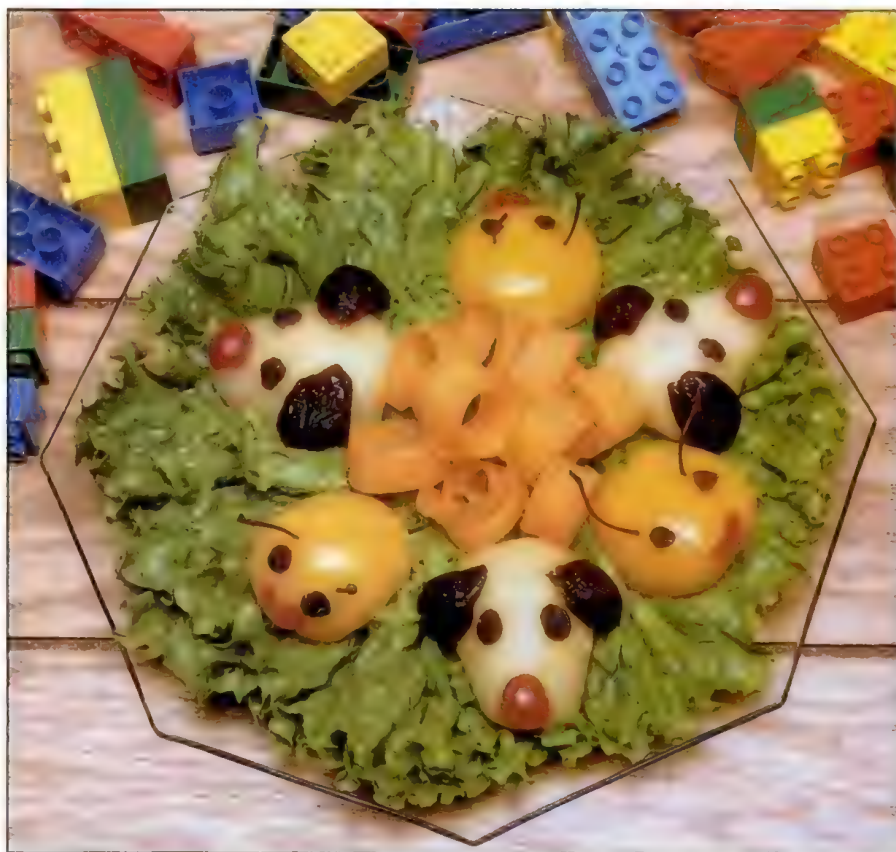
POCKET SANDWICHES

- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup mayonnaise or salad dressing
- 2 tablespoons prepared mustard
- 2 3-ounce packages thinly sliced chicken, turkey, corned beef or dried beef
- 2 pita bread rounds
- Sliced sweet or dill pickles
- Shredded Swiss or cheddar cheese
- Lettuce leaves

Combine mayonnaise and mustard in mixing bowls. Cut meat into strips. Add meat to mayonnaise in bowl. Stir until all meat is coated with mayonnaise mixture. Cut each round of pita bread in half.

Open the bread to make a pocket. Spoon about $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of the meat mixture into each half of bread. Add pickle slices, shredded cheese and lettuce to pocket.

Yields 4 sandwiches



Imaginative kids will enjoy helping to prepare a Fun Salad. The Smiling Bug and Friendly Dog are just two of the many characters that can be created for a tasty snack.

Cooking with 'Soul' and Style



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Freda De Knight

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SPRING FASHIONS FOR *THE GLOBAL MAN*

For spring/summer 1991, Milanese designers have targeted the soft-comfortable approach to men's fashions with styles for outdoor work-wear, office wear or global travel, and with multiple climates in mind. Fabrics such as cotton, raw silk, rayon and multi-blends have found their way into spring menswear collections.

The introduction of new weaves like washable rayon, iridescent rayon blends, seersucker and wrinkle-resistant synthetic blends with a soft, rich feel makes menswear fabrics adaptable to any occasion.

Casual, tailored sportswear for spring/summer features lightweight shirts and casual trousers of gabardine and raw silk with Hawaiian tropical print shirts. Some jackets feature sweaters with shirts and ties of bold novelty and abstract prints. There are loose-fitting blouson jackets that are wonderful for travel. Many are lightly interlined and water repellent. And there are trench coats soft enough to roll up and tuck into a briefcase.

The confident man who is not afraid to be challenged will love the psychedelic colors of the new micro-fiber iridescent fabrics. If you want to be ahead of the pack, forget the drabs and move fashion forward with bright aqua colors that are fun to wear—even though you might upstage your lady.



EBONY FASHION FAIR

By Eunice W. Johnson



Left: A quartet of colorful cotton shirts with cotton gabardine trousers, accessorized with abstract-design caps. Note multiple belt loops at waist. By Gianni Versace.

Above: A three-piece ensemble by Moschino has colorful tropical sheer cotton shirt and banana cotton jacket. Note unusual position of pocket with kerchief—on left side of jacket.



Above: Soprani dresses up the global man in a four-piece ensemble of jacket, shirt, V-neck sweater tucked into pants with colorful abstract tie.



Left: A fine pinstriped jacket with matching vest, worn with lighter-colored pants and darker-colored shirt. Note patterned tie. By Kaisermann.

Photography by
Ingrid Hammond



Above: A seven-zipper short bomber jacket of water-resistant cotton by Kaisermann, accessorized with dark glasses.



Above: A long checked jacket with two-button closing, worn with polka-dot shirt, by Versace.



Left: A leather trench coat, worn over long-sleeved, tropical knit T-shirt and print design pants, by Valentino.

JUDITH JAMISON
Artistic Director
Alvin Alley American Dance Theatre

THE LADY PREFERS *Hanes*



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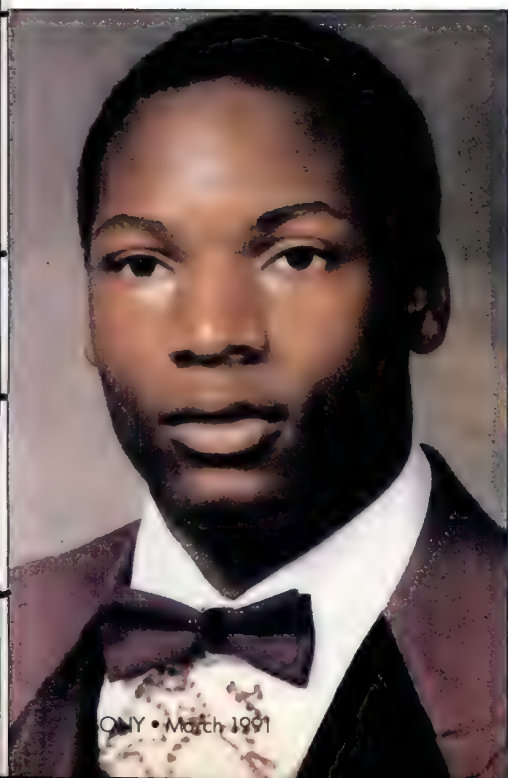




Florence Griffith Joyner, shown in her late teens, graduated from Jordan High School in Los Angeles, Calif., in 1978.



Eddie Murphy (right), graduated in 1979 at age 17 from Roosevelt High School in Roosevelt, N.Y.



two of the most charismatic role models in America.

To find out how these men and women looked in their youth, we requested old photos from scores of Black stars. Some refused to participate because they didn't want the public to see how they looked before their wealth, fortune and international fame. But a courageous few were proud of their origins and eagerly scrounged up old photos and dropped them in the mail. And here is a look at the way they were.

Continued on Page 102



A Breath of Spring

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STEKETEE'S
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Lynchburg; Roanoke

WISCONSIN

MARSHALL FIELDS

Milwaukee

Mar. 10-Mar. 23

COLORADO

MAY D & F

Aurora; Colorado Springs; Denver

CONNECTICUT

MACY'S

Danbury; New Haven; Stamford

DELAWARE

MACY'S

Newark

GEORGIA

CROUCH'S

Griffin

KIRVEN'S

Columbus

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Greensboro; Raleigh; Winston-Salem

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MACY'S

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DILLARD'S

Greenville; Spartanburg

VIRGINIA

MACY'S

Arlington; McLean

WASHINGTON

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Mar. 17-Mar. 30

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nardino; Sherman Oaks; West Covina; Westminster

FLORIDA

GAYFERS

Clearwater; M. Ester; Panama City; Pensacola; Tallahas-
see

MAISON BLANCHE

Altamonte Springs; Clearwater; Daytona Beach; Ft.
Myers; Jacksonville; Lakeland; Orange Park; Orlando; S.
Orlando; St. Petersburg; Tampa

GEORGIA

RICH'S

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ILLINOIS

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Park; North Riverside

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COLLEGIATE SHOPPE

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Meridian; Natchez; Tupelo; Vicksburg

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Las Vegas

OHIO

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McALPINS

Cincinnati; Franklin

SOUTH CAROLINA

RICH'S

Columbia

TEXAS

GOLDSTEIN-MIGEL

Waco

Mar. 24-Apr. 6

ALABAMA

ROGERS

Decatur; Florence; Muscle Shoals

DELAWARE

STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER

Christiana; Wilmington

KANSAS

THE JONES STORE

Kansas City; Topeka

MISSOURI

THE JONES STORE

Kansas City

NEVADA

DILLARD'S

Las Vegas

NEW JERSEY

STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER

Burlington; Cherry Hill; Voorhees

PENNSYLVANIA

STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER

Exton; King of Prussia; Philadelphia; Plymouth Meeting;
Springfield; Willow Grove

SOUTH CAROLINA

KERRISON'S

Charleston

TENNESSEE

GOLDSMITH'S

Jackson; Memphis

TEXAS

EIBANDS

Galveston

Mar. 31-Apr. 13

ALABAMA

GAYFERS

Auburn; Montgomery; Tuscaloosa

ARKANSAS

DILLARD'S

Ft. Smith; Hot Springs; Jonesboro; Little Rock; N. Little
Rock; Pine Bluff

FLORIDA

BURDINS

Altamonte Springs; Boynton Beach; Daytona; Gainesville;
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DILLARD'S

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HOUSE CALL

Expert Advice on Health and Fitness

MEALS & EXERCISE

I am a 27-year-old male who exercises at a fitness club almost every day in the evenings after work. When is the best time for me to eat? I have heard it isn't good to eat before I workout. Why not? S.B., St. Louis, Mo.

Nutrition experts recommend that, exercisers and non-exercisers alike start every day with breakfast. For those who exercise late in the day like you do, it is recommended that breakfast and lunch be your major meals. A late afternoon snack of fruit, nuts and grain mix, for example, will help to boost your energy level before you workout. Never eat heavily before a workout because your body will not be able to digest food properly once you begin exercising. The body will be diverting blood to the muscles and away from your digestive system. A good practice is to make sure your workout time is no fewer than two hours after a meal and one hour after a snack.

SKIN CONDITION

I am a 22-year-old male who is suffering from a skin condition called psoriasis. I've done all that I can do to lessen its appearance, but it has gotten worse. Is there anything new out there for treatment of this skin condition? Are dermatologists working on a cure? Signed, Suffering.

Yours is a common skin problem for which there is no cure. However, it is quite treatable with appropriate therapies. Normally, it takes about 30 days for new skin cells to completely replace the old epidermal layer that is sloughed off. In psoriasis, the rate of cell production is accelerated in some areas, causing skin cells to pile up faster than they can be shed. This results in patches of outer skin that are darkened and scaly in appearance. Psoriasis tends to run in families, but it can also be triggered by emotional stress, infections, or damage or trauma to the skin. It is more likely to affect certain areas of the body, like the scalp, elbows and knees. A complete patient history will usually identify what triggered a

flare-up. In some cases, treating the underlying infection may help to calm the psoriasis. Ultraviolet light therapy, or phototherapy, used in conjunction with topical treatment, has proved helpful. In addition, a derivative of Vitamin A has been helpful in severe cases, and so have some medications used to treat cancer. Patients should be cautioned that some drugs used to treat psoriasis have severe side effects. Once treatment begins, it usually takes at least two to four weeks before there are noticeable results. For more information and support, you may find it helpful to contact the Psoriasis Foundation, 6443 S.W. Beaverton Highway, Suite 210, Portland, Oregon 97221. (503) 297-1545.

THIGH & HIP TRIMMERS

I am a 17-year-old who considers herself to be attractive. My big problem is I am overweight, especially in my buttocks and thighs. My mother is overweight and I don't want to look like her in the future. What diet plans and exercises will help to slim me down? M.D., Tyler, Texas

There are a number of isometric exercises that will help you to tone up and slim down your thighs, hips and buttocks. Why not go to your local library and find books and magazines with exercises you can do at home? Reserve at least a half hour a day for your workout, and schedule it at a time when interruptions are at a minimum. Wear loose-fitting comfortable clothing, and exercise on a mat or padded floor with a towel on top. For the hips and buttocks, try the bicycle: Lie on your back. Using your arms for balance and to support your lower back, raise your legs off the floor. Keeping your back straight, bend your knees and rotate legs in a pedaling motion. Do at least 20 rotations. A good exercise for toning flabby thighs involves lying on the back with stomach tight and lower back pressed into floor. With left knee bent and left foot flat on floor, slide extended right leg out to side of body, inches off the floor, and

point toes. Flex right foot and pull it to the left until right heel is just above left knee. Do 10 times. Repeat on left side. You might also want to look for an exercise class, or form a club with friends who want to stay fit. As for your diet, start with easy, sensible changes. Drink plenty of water—as many glasses a day as you can hold. Eat more fruits and fresh vegetables and avoid eating starchy snack foods and greasy, fried meats. If after eight weeks you see little improvement, consider seeking help from a nutritionist, a physical education instructor, or a physician.

KIDS & FIRE SAFETY

I am worried sick about my 7-year-old niece who is obsessed with fire and watching things burn. She has been caught with matches and lighters a few times. How can we teach her the dangers of fire? T.H. Detroit, Mich.

Your concern is certainly justified, for 300 children, ages 10 and under, died in fires in 1989, according to the United States Fire Administration (USFA). Children playing with fire is the leading cause of fire deaths among preschool-aged children. Recent studies have shown that children are more often motivated to play with fire for several reasons—curiosity, to create excitement, as revenge against a parent or sibling, to call attention to a problem, coercion by a sibling or friend, in response to an irresistible urge or a fantasy. Determining the reason your niece wants to play with fire will help you and other care-givers change her response. The National SAFE KIDS Campaign of USFA offers the following tips for teaching children the importance of fire safety: Teach children that matches and lighters are adult tools, not toys. Keep matches, lighters and other heat sources out of children's reach. Recognize your children's interest and curiosity about fire and teach them fire hazards as well as uses. Teach children what to do in case of fire. Teach your children appropriate ways to express feelings, for setting fires may be her way of acting out feelings.

IN their new study of the dominance of organized religion in many African-American communities, C. Eric Lincoln, professor of religion and culture at Duke University, and Lawrence H. Mamiya, associate professor of religion and African studies at Vassar College, provide a comprehensive historical overview of seven mainline Black denominations and present an analysis of their impact on African-American history and culture.

The Black Church in the African-American Experience (Duke University Press, \$18.95), a study that took 10 years to complete, is one of the most thorough examinations of the scope, internal structure and significance of the Black church in contemporary society. The authors interviewed more than 1,800 Black clergy in both rural and urban settings, executing the largest non-governmental survey of urban and rural churches ever undertaken and the first major field study on this subject since the 1930s.

They explore topics such as the attitude of the church toward women pastors, the reaction of the church to the Civil Rights Movement and trends that will define the Black church in the next century. The exhaustive research offers important insights into the Black church, its growth and development.

Amateur Night at the Apollo: Ralph Cooper Presents Five Decades of Great Entertainment (HarperCollins Publishers, \$25), a memoir by the venerable host of one of the most brutal showcases for new talent—amateur night at New York's legendary Apollo Theatre. Since 1934, Cooper, a respected song-and-dance-man in his own right, has presided over the Wednesday night rituals. With co-author Steve Dougherty, he recalls the many talents who launched their careers in front of the tough crowds, including Sarah Vaughan, Billie Holiday, Luther Vandross and Michael Jackson.

There Is A Balm In Gilead: The Cultural Roots of Martin Luther King Jr.



(Fortress Press, \$19.95), Lewis V. Baldwin's attempt to find the source of the slain civil rights leader's heroic vision and power. Baldwin, an associate professor of religion at Vanderbilt University, traces King's political and theological awareness to his deep and abiding identification with the Black church and Black culture. Culling insights from King's sermons, speeches and unpublished papers, Baldwin reconstructs King's life and the joys and pains that shaped his work.

Hansberry's Drama: Commitment Amid Complexity (University of Illinois Press, \$27.50), an examination of the life and work of the gifted Black playwright Lorraine Hansberry, who died at age 34, leaving behind a number of finished and partially finished plays and screenplays, not the least of which is the classic *A Raisin in the Sun*. Steven Carter, an associate professor of history at the University of Puerto Rico, was granted unlimited access to Hansberry's manuscripts and papers and emerges with a portrait of the artist's social, political and philosophical views and their relation to her artistic triumphs and goals.

The Isis Papers: The Keys to the Colors (Third World Press, \$14.95), a collection of essays by Dr. Francis Cress Welsing, a physician specializing in general and child psychiatry, focusing on the global system of White supremacy and strategies for coping with racism in modern society.

Stitched From The Soul: Slave Quilts from the Ante-Bellum South (E.P. Dutton, \$18.95), a study of how African culture influenced American



quilting styles and 19th century textile production, by Gladys-Marie Fry, Ph.D.

Memory of Kin: Stories About Family by Black Writers (Doubleday, \$22.95), a collection of stories and poems by noted Black writers, including Rita Dove, Paule Marshall and Alice Walker, edited by Mary Helen Washington.

The Megalight Connection (E & L Press, \$9.95), science fiction novel set on the planet Zarkon, located in a distant galaxy, where peace and harmony reign for generations, thanks to the power of a binding universal force, by William M. Griggs.

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1. Contest open to all residents of the U.S.A., 12 years old and older. Employees and family members of employees of Colgate-Palmolive Company, its subsidiaries, affiliates and agencies, and Consumer Concepts Inc. are not eligible.

2. To enter, hand print your name, address, age and day phone number on the official entry form (or plain 3" x 5" index card), along with a 5" x 7" or 3" x 5" index card with twenty-five (25) words or less that express your love for your mother, along with proof-of-purchase which can be a cash register receipt with price of Colgate-Palmolive product circled, or the UPC code written down on entry form. All entries remain the property of Colgate-Palmolive. Enter as often as you wish, but each entry must be mailed separately. Mail entries to "Send Your Mama to the Bahamas Contest," P.O. Box 1830; New York, N.Y. 10116. Entries must be postmarked by April 23, 1991, and received by April 30, 1991. Not responsible for lost, late, misdirected or damaged mail.

2a. You can also enter by calling 1-900-446-2255. Each call costs \$.95 per minute. Proceeds will support the National Headstart program.

3. Entries will be judged on a total forty (40) point value system based on the following criteria: (10 points) clarity of expression; (20 points) sincerity of the content and meaningfulness; and (10 points) uniqueness of statement. Entrants will be judged by a panel of literary scholars under the supervision of Consumer Concepts Inc., and an independent judging organization whose decisions are final. Only one (1) winner allowed per household or address.

4. Prizes. Eleven (11) Grand Prize winners will be chosen. Each Grand Prize winner and his/her selected traveling companion will be provided round-trip coach air transportation from the major airport nearest their home to port city for a four (4) day, three (3) night stay, including hotel accommodations, meals and \$500 spending money. Travel dates will be subject to availability and restrictions designated by American Airlines and Consumer Concepts Inc. Estimated value of each Grand Prize is \$2,800. Winners under 18 must be accompanied by parent or guardian. Actual retail value is dependent on point of U.S. departure. Fifteen (15) first-prize winners each receive \$200 which can be applied towards dinner for four (4) at a restaurant of their choice.

Twenty (20) second-prize winners each receive \$50 in American Express Gift Cheques. Prizes are not transferable. No prize substitution or cash alternatives will be allowed for prizes. Any expenses incurred outside of prize provision and risks of travel are the winners' responsibility. Winners' likenesses and names may be used for promotional purposes without consideration. All taxes are the responsibility of the winners. Winners will be required to execute an affidavit of eligibility and travel releases.

5. Entrants are responsible for knowledge of content of official rules and agree that Colgate-Palmolive, the prize providers, their affiliates, agencies and their employees and Consumer Concepts Inc. shall have no liability in connection with the acceptance or use of prizes awarded. Contest subject to all federal, state and local laws and regulations and is void where prohibited or restricted by law. For a winners' list, send a stamped self-addressed envelope to "Send Your Mama to the Bahamas" Winners, P.O. Box 1830; New York, N.Y. 10116. Residents of West V.A. and Vermont need not stamp envelope or provide any proof-of-purchase.

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Treasure The



WHOOPI GOLDBERG *Continued*

make *I'm Black*. Every diamond I wear is worn on a Black hand. Of course, nobody has asked me about my first husband [who is Black] because nobody wants to know about that," she says.

Though she continued to work (in addition to films, she co-hosts HBO's now-historic *Comic Relief* benefit for the homeless and stars on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*), her reputation deteriorated badly. In less than five years she went from Hollywood's golden girl to a rumored lesbian/Uncle Tom with a bad attitude and a career on the skids. In Hollywood, that combina-

tion is almost always terminal, and insiders whispered she was washed up—*through*—that she should pack it in and be happy to do guest spots on the *Hollywood Squares*.

The voice Whoopi listened to, however, came from inside. As always, it told her to hang tough. Whatever anyone thought of her, she was a survivor. It was just a matter of time before she'd be back on top.

The time came last summer. In a wickedly funny performance as a fake psychic, she made *Ghost*, the highest-grossing movie of 1990 and the feel-good film of the year. Not long ago, she

signed a multi-picture deal with Paramount rumored to be worth millions, and she has her own office on the legendary lot. In March, she co-stars with Sissy Spacek in a film based on the Montgomery bus boycott, *The Long Walk Home*. She's already begun filming her next movie, *Soap Dish*, a comedy in which she plays the head writer of a soap opera. Not bad for a washed-up has-been.

"I'm chuckling at this point in time because this is sort of a second time around for me," says Whoopi of the *deja vu* acclaim. But it is irony, more than humor, she finds in the NAACP's



the first of the new millennium, the world is a more interconnected place than ever before. The Internet has revolutionized the way we communicate, and the global economy has become more integrated than ever. The challenges we face are more complex and more interconnected than ever before. The world is a more complex and more interconnected place than ever before. The challenges we face are more complex and more interconnected than ever before. The world is a more complex and more interconnected place than ever before. The challenges we face are more complex and more interconnected than ever before.

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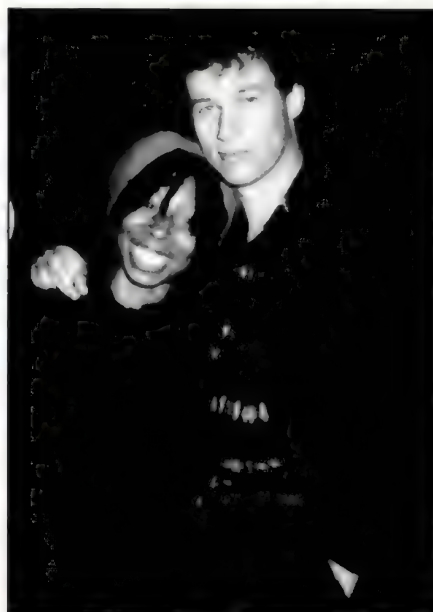
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In happier days, Whoopi and her former husband, cameraman David Claessen, share a night out. Divorced star says that she will never marry again. Whoopi and her 16-year-old daughter, Alexandra (right), are adjusting to new roles of mother and grandmother following the 1990 birth of Alexandra's daughter, Amarah Skye. Star's mother, Emma Johnson (bottom photo), is a former nurse and Head Start teacher.

WHOOPI GOLDBERG *Continued*

she wanted that. That's very important to me—that she made the choice herself."

No one knows better than Whoopi how important *choice* can be. Years ago, she too faced it, though unlike her daughter, she chose to have an abortion. Which helps explain why she is more than willing to use her celebrity for the abortion rights cause. "Rich women will always get them (abortions)—they'll call them D & Cs. And a poor woman will go to the butchers. Hopefully, we can circumvent the butchers now that we know what that process brings," she says.

Privately, she's currently involved with cameraman Eddie Gold, whom she met—and asked out—during the

filming of *Clara's Heart*. "People never ask me to do stuff because they think, 'Oh, that's Whoopi. She would never want to just go out.' So I asked him to go for some Chinese food... I have a pretty funny time with the old bald guy."

How long the Gold/Goldberg romance will last remains to be seen. How long Whoopi Goldberg's career will last is no mystery: as long as she wants it to. When it comes to survival, she's proven she can play the mine's-longer-than-yours game with the best of them.

"I'm not a flash in the pan," she says. What she means is that when it's time to leave Hollywood, *she'll* write her own script. She always has.

—Laura B. Randolph

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Partners of Mitchell/Titus & Co., the nation's largest Black CPA firm, include (seated, l. to r.) Bert N. Mitchell and Robert P. Titus, (standing, l. to r.) Mary M. Centeno, Chester N. Watson, Glenn N. Deans, Phillip P. Williams, Kwabina Appiah, Timothy P. Spillane, Willard N. Archie, Wayne O. Leevy, Ronald Benjamin and Virgilio Blondet Jr. Below, founding partners Mitchell and Titus are a study in confidence as they guide the firm.

The Biggest Black CPA Firm



With shrewd planning, Mitchell/ Titus & Co. soared to the top of the accounting field and plans to stay there

FROM his expansive, window-encircled office on the 27th floor of a sleek skyscraper situated on the rim of New York Harbor, Bert N. Mitchell, founder and chief executive officer of Mitchell/Titus & Co., can almost peer into the more than two-foot-tall eyes of the Statue of Liberty. How fitting that Mitchell, a native of Jamaica and the embodiment of the American dream, should stand virtually face to face with the national symbol of hope, hard work



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cies, large not-for-profit organizations and Fortune 500 companies such as PepsiCo, Inc. and Philip Morris, Inc.

In its brief history, Mitchell/Titus has vaulted over many older, more established Black firms and is cocky enough to believe it can selectively challenge the dominance and efficiency of some larger and older White accounting firms.

What's the secret behind this prodigious success?

"We are a good accounting firm," says Bert Mitchell simply. "We can perform. We are good at carrying out engagements. We are skillful at helping to develop business. We have a reputation for integrity and credibility. Those are the things that have built this firm and that move it forward."

Robert Titus adds that intense preparation and self-scrutiny also have been key. "From the very beginning, we recognized the importance of planning and preparing for future events," he says. "So we developed strategies that exploited some of the opportunities that presented themselves."

That, say its founders, is why Mitchell/Titus has experienced tremendous growth during a period when many accounting firms—including "big six" powerhouses like Arthur Anderson

and Coopers & Lybrand—are contracting. In a recent survey of the nation's top 60 accounting firms conducted by Accounting Today magazine, Mitchell/Titus ranked 37th in size and 35th in productivity. The firm has virtually doubled in personnel in the past five years, swelling to its current workforce of just over 200 people in three offices—New York, Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia.

The firm's New York headquarters, located in a gleaming office tower at One Battery Park Plaza, at the tip of the city's (some say the nation's) financial district, looks down on many of the same fat, powerful accounting firms that denied job opportunities to both Bert Mitchell, 52, and Robert Titus, 49, at the start of their careers more than 25 years ago.

"I must have walked from one end [of Wall Street] to the other," says Mitchell, recalling those lean years when, fresh from the MBA program of the Bernard M. Baruch School of Business of the City University of New York, he futilely searched for a position with the big firms.

The oldest of seven children, Mitchell migrated to America in 1958 at age 20. Anxious to make a living, he sought a variety of low-paying jobs. But the

racism of the day was fierce, and he was unceremoniously turned away. "I was told that I didn't have enough experience to be a dishwasher at an automat," he says, still incredulous at the memory, "and that in order to collect subway tokens I needed to get experience in the Army."

But Mitchell was undaunted by the snubs. He believed that America held for him opportunities that were not available in his native Jamaica. "Some people looked at this country and all they saw was the racism that was here," he says. "I looked, and I saw the racism, but I also saw that they would give you this one little break, and in that break were possibilities that could be endless."

So he enrolled in Baruch, while working full-time as a clerk for a Teamsters local. Initially, he harbored dreams of becoming an engineer, but after scoring surprisingly well in a few business courses, he gravitated to accounting, where he has stayed.

He served stints as the controller of two insurance companies and the Ford Foundation before settling in at Lucas, Tucker & Co., the oldest Black accounting firm in the nation. Mitchell says he never saw himself as an entrepreneur, and, at first, assumed he



Developing young talent has been the focus at the decidedly international firm. Above, consultant Rangini Podda (seated) confers with managers Janet Gray and Leonard Nethersole.

BIGGEST CPA FIRM *Continued*

would have a long happy career at Lucas, Tucker. But as time went on, he realized that he had ideas about managing and developing a firm that were in direct contrast to the partners, so he struck out on his own.

In 1973, he and Robert Titus, a Brooklyn College graduate and a not-altogether-happy partner in the firm of Nemiroff, Cosmas, Titus & Colchamiro, decided to join forces. It was a near perfect fit, and a near perfect time for an aggressive, young minority accounting firm to get its start.

"We were beneficiaries of the successes of the Civil Rights Era," says Mitchell. "A lot of community-based social and anti-poverty programs came out of that era, and for the first time, these organizations, controlled by Blacks, were able to call the shots in terms of who their accountants were going to be. So we developed a number of clients out of that."

After the firm had built a sizeable base of large not-for-profit clients, including the A. Philip Randolph Institute, The National Medical Association and the Ford Foundation, it looked for new areas of growth and found new opportunities with state and federal government clients. In 1979, the firm opened its Washington, D.C., office with Robert Titus at the head.

And even in the Reagan years, when federal contracts began to dry up as the government turned its back on affirmative action, Mitchell/Titus grew by teaming up with large White firms to make joint proposals to corporations and government agencies. These joint

ventures, as the agreements are called, proved to be a boon to Mitchell/Titus, which quickly established itself as a small firm that could hold its own with the big boys.

One of the biggest deals to come their way courtesy of a joint venture was a contract to audit the New York State payroll with Peat/Marwick. Mitchell/Titus is now highly sought for joint ventures.

"A lot of firms have come up with the strategy of joint agreements, but I think we were just more aggressive about it," says Mitchell. "And more importantly, we were able to deliver, shoulder to shoulder, toe to toe, with our majority firm partners."

Early last year, Mitchell/Titus capped a period of quick, though steady, growth by merging with Leevy/Redcross, a Philadelphia firm founded in 1975. In addition to boosting the workforce, the merger places Mitchell/Titus well on its way to realizing its goal of becoming one of the most dominant minority accounting firms in the Eastern corridor, and has helped tighten its grasp on the region.

Today, there are 16 partners at Mitchell/Titus, nearly half of them still in their 30s. While the founding partners, who are members of a five-person executive committee that manages the firm, still have hands on the reigns, they have consciously sought young talent to assure the firm's growth and development.

"We were willing to share interest in the business with young Black professionals at a very early stage," says

Mitchell, "because we were concerned about harnessing talent. Sometimes we would say, 'Well, maybe this person needs another year or two before letting them into the partnership ranks.' But we would decide to err on the other side and gave people an opportunity as early as possible. And I think that strategy has prevented our best people from being stolen."

In addition, it has made Mitchell/Titus a hot prospect for young, Black accountants. The number of unsolicited resumes sent to the company by graduating business students has doubled in the past few years. And turnover has dropped to virtually nil.

"I think the employees of this firm are bullish," says Willard N. Archie, the partner in charge of the firm's management and systems consulting division. He joined the company in 1986. "There's excitement here about the fact that we've exceeded our financial goals and projections and we've managed to meet or exceed the growth projections outlined in our strategic plan."

Not that growth has meant that the personalities of the founders are no longer stamped on the firm. While accounting firms are not exactly known as cheerful havens, Mitchell/Titus has a warm and decidedly international feel (About 30 percent of the employees in the New York office are not native-born Americans).

Both Mitchell and Titus profess to be "people-oriented" managers and they have invested the firm with those values. Each year, the employees are divided into social groups of no more than 10, selected randomly, that are required to undertake two outings per year. The firm also keeps an industrial psychologist on retainer who prescreens prospective hires and counsels unhappy employees.

"We realized that the most important asset any firm like ours has is people," says Titus. "So we're committed to developing and maintaining good people."

With the Leevy/Redcross merger smoothly behind them, the braintrust of Mitchell/Titus is now developing plans that will take the firm into the 21st century and beyond, a challenge that the founding partners relish. "One of the great joys of working in a new firm like this is to watch it grow as you turn it over to a new generation," says Titus. "We want Mitchell/Titus & Co. to outlive Mitchell and Titus, and we're on our way to providing for that. We haven't even tapped all of our potential."

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LETTERS Continued

Black women) to evaluate our relationships with one another and stop hurting and start helping each other as sisters should. I personally will never be the direct cause of another Black woman's misery. Haven't we suffered enough? I don't understand why she or any other woman would knowingly do this. I just have one additional comment to make to Dene. Dene you are a beautiful, intelligent Black woman. STOP THIS MADNESS!!!

DANA V. NOWLIN

Pittsburgh, Pa.

I am writing in response to your article on man-sharing. It isn't something you want to do, but sometimes circumstances throw you into the situation. You have to be a strong woman to be the other woman, but you have to be a stronger woman to let the man go.

At this time, I am sharing a man with his wife. It isn't something I want to admit to anyone, but love makes things happen. I am trying to get out of this relationship, but the more I try, the tighter he holds me.

As the other woman, I want to tell his wife to find a job where she doesn't have to travel and to love her man in all aspects. Sex may not be everything in a marriage, but it does help to hold it together.

NAME WITHHELD

Chicago, Ill.

ARSENIO HALL

I was ecstatic when I saw Arsenio Hall's face on the cover of your December 1990 issue. My whole family is crazy about Arsenio, from my

6-year-old cousin to my grandparents! I am a 13-year-old freshman in high school, and I feel that Arsenio's positive image has a great effect on the lives of lots of people of all ages. I always wanted to know the *real* story behind the feud with Madonna and Arsenio. If you're reading this, Arsenio, I support you all the way! I just want to say thank you, EBONY, for the article, and congratulations, Laura Randolph, for a job well done!

MONIQUE WHITE

Newport News, Va.

I am writing in response to your article on Arsenio Hall. I was pleased with this article. I think Arsenio is the best talk show host there is. Others try to imitate him, but they haven't been able to do so yet. I just love to watch his show, read about him and write essays about him in my high school English class. Arsenio is very handsome and unique to me. I think he is the best-dressed male out of all the men on television in his particular job setting. Arsenio, keep up the good work. Your show is very exciting.

SHANNON GAINES

Lakeland, Ga.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON

Congratulations on your article, "Was LBJ The Greatest Civil Rights President Ever?" (Dec. 1990). It was very informative.

I hope that every Afro-American reads it. It is essential that Afro-Americans know and understand the details of the civil rights struggle. Knowledge of such occurrences will eliminate existing prejudices harbored by Whites and other races.

All Americans, young and old, need to know the suffering and the accomplishments of Afro-Americans. The fact that a White American

worked so hard to secure equal rights for Afro-Americans means a lot to me since I am an Afro-American.

I really appreciate the efforts of Lyndon B. Johnson; without them I would not be where I am today. He has proved to be one of the great civil rights leaders of the century.

Thank you very much for this article, and keep up the good work!

JOANNA F. WOODS

Albany, Ga.

M.C. HAMMER

I enjoyed your article, "It's Hammer Time: M. C. Hammer" (Dec. 1990). I like M. C. Hammer's rappin' style. He has a positive message. It's a shame that a lot of other rappers are jealous of Hammer. For myself, I'm glad to see a Black man making a whole lot of money. Another Black shouldn't say anything about another Black, considering all that our ancestors had to go through so we could do what we are doing now.

TERRY THOMPSON

Spencer, N.C.

DOMINIQUE'S NOOK

I would like to thank Roxanne Brown for her article, "Dominique's Nook" (Dec. 1990). I live in Atlanta and I see Dominique Wilkins around town all the time. I see the same things that Roxanne saw in him. Dominique is a good brother, always talking to people and being friendly to everyone he comes into contact with. About four months ago, a writer for the Atlanta Constitution wrote a story on Dominique and his family that was nothing more than a lie about the way Wilkins mismanages money. Your story shows what a together brother Dominique is, and also shows a mother who did a great job of raising him and his brothers and sisters.

DIRK WHITE

Smyrna, Ga.

WORLD'S BIGGEST CHURCH

Thank you so much for your article, "The World's Biggest And Most Controversial Church" (Dec. 1990). I am an African student in Austin, Texas. I read the article on the basilica and was delighted, not only because I come from the Ivory Coast, but because I saw it as a gesture from EBONY to inform African-Americans about Africa. The media and movies are stereotyping Africa as one big jungle with wild animals and people dancing all day long. But the article showed a different kind of Africa.

Thank you, again. Your magazine is perfect for Black people all over the world. Keep up the good work.

MOHAMED DIARRA

Austin, Texas

45TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

Congratulations on the November 45th anniversary issue. In all the years I have been reading EBONY, I can't recall a bigger or better collection of fascinating articles and photographs.

There was, however, one serious error of omission in the article, "The Survivors." Benny Carter is surely the most world-renowned and distinguished survivor of them all.

In 1945, already famous, Carter had employed two of your survivors, Dizzy Gillespie and Miles Davis, in his orchestra. He had also written arrangements for Cab Calloway; he had appeared with Lena Horne in the movie *As Thousands Cheer*, and he had recorded on alto sax with Lionel Hampton. He has since worked on record

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LETTERS Continued

film that both Michael Jackson and Diana Ross coveted and attained roles, and in which Lena Horne was featured. Nor was there any mention of Vinette Carroll, Woodie King, the Negro Ensemble Company and countless others who are still producing viable Black theater on Broadway and nationally.

Producing a Broadway play costs hundreds of thousands of dollars, if not millions. Perhaps if a few of our successful Black entertainers invested in works written by fellow African-American artists, there would be a plethora of Black shows on Broadway.

KLAIR ADDISON

New York, N.Y.

'MY LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT'

After reading the article, "My Last Will And Testament" (Nov. 1990), by the legendary Mary McLeod Bethune, I felt very uplifted. The article gives us a sense of pride in being Black. It also gives our children and us hope for a promising future. With proper guidance of our children, I'm sure Mary McLeod Bethune's testament will be fulfilled. She still lives within us all. Keep up the good work, EBONY, in publishing wonderful articles such as this.

JANICE A. SMITH

Milwaukee, Wis.

BLACK WOMEN IN THE WHITE HOUSE

I was excited and pleased to see the article, "Black Women In The White House" (Oct. 1990). The accomplishments of Black women everywhere must be published, and EBONY is a great vehicle for acknowledging Black success. But shame on you for the unnecessary commentary about looks and body parts: "Young (thirtysomething), beautiful (look at them), and intimidatingly smart . . ."; "Condoleezza Rice uncoils her long, perfectly contoured legs . . ."; and "Tall, gorgeous, with electric brown eyes . . ." Black women experience enough sexism and discrimination and do not need our Black magazines to repeat the injustices. A man who had achieved the same accomplishments as these Black women would never be referred to or characterized in such a sexist manner! Smart is not something to be intimidated by, but rather a goal to be achieved by our Black youngsters.

BONI CHERELEE-CARUTH

Laramie, Wyo.

What a thrilling and inspiring experience to read your article, "Black Women In The White House." I was especially impressed by Dr. Condoleezza Rice who served as the former director of Soviet and Eastern European Affairs for the National Security Council and was recently named special assistant to the president for National Security Affairs. What a wonderful thing Dr. Rice did when she did not let her guidance counselor influence her decision to attend college. I am so proud of her success. There are many Black students who have been told by their counselors that they are not college material and have gone to college and become successful in their chosen careers. I surely would like for that guidance counselor to read this issue of EBONY and see how wrong she was about Dr. Rice. Graduating *magna cum laude* at the age of 19 from the University of Denver and earning master's and doctoral degrees from Notre Dame would perhaps teach that guidance counselor to look at the records instead of the student's face the next time she gives advice to a student.

Congratulations, and thanks again for such an inspiring article.

MRS. SADIE MCCLURE

Hollis, N.Y.

I was flipping through the October 1990 issue and I ran across your article, "Black Women In The White House." I was very impressed.

As an ambitious young Black woman, it was very motivating to me to know that some of "us" are there working for our country. Before reading the article, I never would have guessed that there were any women of color working in the White House.

The women you featured were excellent examples of the fact that we can do anything we choose. Thank you for highlighting them and for showing me that I, too, can have my dream of working in the White House. The article has been very enlightening and motivating to me.

JUSTINE S. OLIVER

Racine, Wis.

ARE WE GIVING AWAY THE BLUES?

As a musician, I was greatly concerned when I read the article, "Are Blacks Giving Away The Blues?" (Oct. 1990). I agree that we need to educate our children and present them with more exposure to the blues. A lot of our children seem to think that the only way is rap, which in my opinion is not art. Ella Fitzgerald scatted, which is "rap," but she could also sing, which is true artistry. Somehow, this connection is being lost and our children think that they invented music. Rappers don't credit anyone with their success. If they did, it might help to open our kids' eyes. If it weren't for these great blues artists laying the foundation, we would not be where we are today—musically or otherwise.

PHILLIP POOLER

Evanston, Ill.

THE BLACK FAMILY

In view of the ongoing propaganda concerning the demise of the Black family, I really enjoyed reading your uplifting and inspirational article, "Celebrating The Black Family" (Oct. 1990). I applaud and praise your magazine for spotlighting a person like Dorothy I. Height, who founded the Black Family Reunion Celebration after viewing a nationally televised special on Black teenage pregnancy, crime and despair.

As a Black male student at Jackson State University, I continually sense the need for stronger families that will raise and send Black students into the world to challenge and eradicate the dark cloud hovering over Black families.

Realizing the energy that it takes to bring Black families together, I appreciate Dr. Height's efforts.

CHARLES K. JONES

Jackson, Miss.

It was uplifting to read the article, "Celebrating The Black Family." It contained a strong sense of community and purpose. So often the media focuses on the "plight of the Black family," quoting statistics about unemployment, single-parent households, poor test scores and drug abuse. These harsh realities must be brought to light but along with them we need to see that the family, the foundation that has enabled African-Americans to become more than simply a statistic, is still alive and flourishing.

The Black family is an important source of history and self-esteem in our community, for by knowing our history we know our greatness, and our responsibility to pass that knowledge on to the next generation is tantamount to our very survival.



大熊猫的分布范围曾经非常广泛，从喜马拉雅山脉到东南亚的泰国、老挝、越南等地都曾发现过它们的踪迹。然而，由于栖息地的丧失和人类活动的干扰，大熊猫的分布范围已经大大缩小，目前主要集中在中国四川、陕西和甘肃的山区。

大熊猫的食性非常特殊，它们几乎完全依赖竹子为生。每天需要花费大量的时间进食，以获取足够的能量来维持生命。这种特殊的食性使得大熊猫在自然界的生存面临着巨大的挑战，因为它们对环境的依赖性非常强。

大熊猫的繁殖能力非常低，雌性大熊猫每年只能产下一到两只幼崽。而且，幼崽的存活率也非常低，因为它们需要长时间的照顾和喂养。为了保护大熊猫，中国政府已经采取了一系列措施，包括建立自然保护区、开展人工繁育研究以及加强公众教育等。这些努力已经取得了一定的成效，大熊猫的种群数量在近年来有所回升。

大熊猫不仅是中国的国宝，也是世界自然遗产的重要组成部分。它们的生存状况直接关系到全球生物多样性的保护。通过加强对大熊猫的研究和保护，我们可以更好地了解它们的生态习性和生存需求，从而为其他珍稀物种的保护提供有益的借鉴。

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LETTERS

Continued

and I'm sure there will be others.

DARROLD HUNT
Founder/Music Director
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Washington, D. C.

FROM SAUDI ARABIA

I'm currently stationed in Saudi Arabia. I've been reading your magazine for quite a few years. I'd like to commend you on a job well done. In the service, I've met many people around the world. It's funny, yet sad, how naive people can be about our race. EBONY gives people, Black or White, a chance to see us in a different light. It also breaks down stereotypes and misconceptions. Your magazine is not only good for Black America, but all America.

SGT. V. RICHARDSON

FPO San Francisco

IN MY NEXT LIFE

I have great concern for the misplaced indignation expressed by Dr. Laurence Thomas and his "well-placed Black friends." There are indeed too many of us like him. We sincerely believe that if we study hard, serve our country, speak properly, dress well and be good citizens, then we will somehow be exempt from Black contempt. Well, surprise! Surprise!

This is not a simple matter of public trust. We are trusted to entertain on the playfield, to fight on the battlefield and to work in the cane field. We have hundreds of years of experience as public and private servants. But that got us nowhere, considering the grand scale of things.

Oddly enough, I do not blame White people for their behavior as described by the professor. They know that their ancestors enslaved us, took away our religion, our names and our language. If our self-worth is based on speaking, acting, dressing and thinking like White people, then we present nothing more than mindless victims of their perceived supremacy. Respect will only come when we become confident and committed enough to assert our own self-image, design our own thought, plot our own destiny and manage our own communities. No one will hand us respect on a silver platter. We will experience it when we pick up our dignity, dust it off and dare anyone to mess with it again.

LAWTON J. PIERRE, D.D.S.

Baltimore, Md.

Letters intended for this column should be addressed to: Letters To The Editor, EBONY Magazine, 820 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60605. To be considered for publication, letters must bear the name and address of the sender and—because of limited space—should not be unduly long.

Letters may be edited to meet space, clarity or style requirements.

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6—Harry Langdon; Harold Smith; Earlie Hudnall; Trish Martin
10—Ctsy. Nissan Motors Corp.; Federal Express Corp.

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- 13—Vandell Cobb
- 17—Frederick L. Watkins Jr.;
- 18—James Mitchell
- 20—James Mitchell; Frederick L. Watkins Jr. (2)
- 24—Harry Langdon
- 25—NBC/Jean Kretzler; Don Cadette
- 26—Gary Null; Harry Langdon; Gary Null
- 28—Pam Barkentin/Outline
- 31—Harry Langdon
- 32—Bob Black; Layne Murdoch
- 34—Eddie Wolf; Melvin Epps
- 36—Arnold Turner; Paul Downs; Collette Williams
- 38—Vandell Cobb; Harold Smith
- 39—Harold Smith; Frederick L. Watkins Jr.
- 43—Vandell Cobb; Harold Smith
- 44—Frederick L. Watkins Jr.; Harold Smith
- 46 to 50—Earlie Hudnall
- 54—Ctsy. Columbia Records; Kip Meyer/Columbia Records
- 56—Juanita Cole; Outline Press
- 58—Outline Press; Ctsy. Columbia Records
- 60—Esmy Files; Ctsy. Lee Haney
- 62—Bud Smith (2); Esmy Files
- 64—Bud Smith
- 68—Vandell Cobb; Ctsy. Peggy Crittenden
- 70—Trish Martin
- 72—Collette Williams (2)
- 74—Vandell Cobb (2); Collette Williams
- 76—Ctsy. Sadie T.M. Alexander Estate; Peter Jones
- 78—Ctsy. Hampton University Museum
- 80—Ctsy. Philadelphia Museum of Art; Graydon Wood
- 82—Ctsy. Sadie T.M. Alexander Estate
- 86 to 90—Vandell Cobb
- 92 to 95—Ingrid Hammond
- 98—Ctsy. Whitney Houston; Esmy Files; Ctsy. E.A. Laney High School; James Mitchell; Ctsy. McAdory High School; Vandell Cobb
- 99—Ctsy. Florence Griffith Joyner; Frederick L. Watkins Jr.; Ctsy. Eddie Murphy; Bruce Talamon
- 100—Ctsy. L. Douglas Wilder; Moneta Sleet Jr.; Ctsy. Luther Vandross; Moneta Sleet Jr.; Ctsy. Jackie Joyner Kersee; Frederick L. Watkins Jr.
- 102—Ctsy. Magic Johnson; Isaac Sutton; Ctsy. Alex Haley; Moneta Sleet Jr.; Ctsy. Marcia Warfield; Jeff Katz (NBC)
- 104—Esmy Files; Frederick L. Watkins Jr.; Ctsy. Ronald Brown; D. Michael Cheers; Ctsy. Andre Dawson; Vandell Cobb; Ctsy. Ed Bradley; Monroe S. Frederick
- 110—E. J. Camp/Outline Press
- 111—Lee Crum; S. Karen Epstein; Esmy Files
- 112—Ctsy. Paramount Pictures
- 116—Kevin Winter/DWI; Bill Jones; Esmy Files
- 118 to 122—Moneta Sleet Jr.
- 130—U. S. Navy

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MAR. 1991 VOL. XLVI, NO. 5

EBONY (ISSN 0012-9011) is published monthly by Johnson Publishing Company, Inc., at 820 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60605. Second Class Postage paid at Chicago, Illinois and additional mailing offices. Subscription prices: U.S.A. and possessions: \$16 for one year; \$28 for two years; \$40 for three years; Canada and Pan-American countries add \$8 per year; other foreign countries add \$12 per year. Single copies \$2.00. Payable in U.S. currency only. EBONY is indexed in the Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature. Member of Circulation Audit Bureau. ©Copyright, 1991, by Johnson Publishing Co., Inc., "EBONY" is a registered trademark of Johnson Publishing Co., Inc. Reproduction in whole or in part is prohibited without permission. Manuscripts, photos and art submitted should be accompanied by self-addressed envelopes and return postage. The Publisher assumes no responsibility for return of unsolicited manuscripts or photos. For changes of address, send stenciled address label and new address to EBONY, 820 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60605.

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THE EBONY ADVISOR

The EBONY Advisor is a question-and-answer column designed to help our readers with their problems. Answers to all questions are thoroughly researched and, if necessary, checked with competent psychiatrists, psychologists, medical doctors, sociologists and others expert in family counseling.

If you have questions, please send to The EBONY Advisor, EBONY Magazine, 820 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60605. Only the initials and cities of those submitting questions will be published. Because of the volume of mail received, we cannot send personal replies.

MY relationship with my ex-girlfriend lasted more than 4½ years. It's been one year and several months since I broke up with her. We used to live together. I still am in love with her even though she already has a new lover. The day I left her, she went to her part-time lover and began a relationship that lasted four months. Weeks later, she went out with her other part-time lover and they ended up moving together. I knew about them. That's why I left her, but I still hold on. I've dated other women since we broke up, but no one will ever replace her in my heart. My feelings for her are so strong and I wish she would get back with me. My love is all hers. Should I still have hope? Please help me. A.R.F., Austin, Texas.

In the words of the immortal Duke Ellington, you've "got it bad and that ain't good." The worst thing you can do in your painful situation is to cling to the unrealistic hope that somehow your ex-girlfriend will come back to you. She had that opportunity after she broke up with her first "part-time lover." Instead, she chose to move in with her "second part-time lover," indicating that you are definitely not on her list of priorities.

Keeping your hope alive is merely keeping your pain alive. Make a conscious effort to get her out of your life by getting out of hers. Stop watching her from afar and keeping up with her every move. Let her live her life and start living yours. The only reason you haven't been able to become interested in other women is because you are still too interested in her. The sooner you admit to yourself that the party is over, the sooner the healing process can begin and you can concentrate on finding someone who is more worthy of your love.

I AM a 35-year-old single mother with a 15-year-old son who does absolutely nothing. He has failed school two years in a row and gets straight Fs, even in physical education. He's doing nothing in school except socialize. I have taken him to a psychologist twice to see if there was something emotional causing his behavior, but there's nothing wrong with him except that he does not respect any adult authority. He thinks he can do whatever he wants. He won't bathe or do anything around the house. It has reached the point where I am ready to put him out, although I know that I am all he has. All I ask of him is to go to school and do his best and help around the house, but I have to threaten to put him out before he will clean his room. Getting him counseling was my last resort. Now I am ready for action. I don't feel that I should have to take care of him when he is doing nothing for himself. Unless he changes his attitude, I am afraid that he will end up in trouble or selling drugs. Please give me some advice. E.R. Cincinnati, Ohio

Even without your telling the whole story, it is quite apparent that your son did not become a spoiled, lazy and disrespectful slob overnight and without some help from

you. Cleanliness, respect for adult authority and the desire to do well in school are not traits with which people are born. They have to be painstakingly instilled in children by their parents when the children are still young—not when they are in their teens. Since it appears that you have missed that opportunity, there is not a great deal you can do at this point to quickly transform your son into a well-groomed, well-behaved and respectful Merit Scholar. But putting him out, however tempting he is making that option, should not be your first course of action. It'll only get you a "contributing to the delinquency of a minor" rap should he get into trouble, which is a strong possibility. You could petition Juvenile Court to take him off your hands as unmanageable, but that is an extremely drastic step reserved usually for youngsters who are violent or otherwise delinquent. Your best course of action for the time being is to contact the Hamilton County Dept. of Human Services by dialing their hotline: 241 KIDS. Tell them what your problem is and they will work with you and your boy and try to resolve it. The most important thing is for you to try your level best to keep your family together, not to break it up.

I AM an attractive, overweight, 29-year-old Black female. I have been both, heavy and thin. I feel better emotionally and physically without the extra pounds, but due to a stormy relationship (it's over), I have eaten myself up to 250 pounds. To lose weight, I've tried clinics and all kinds of diets. Nothing worked. So I decided to accept myself as I am. I bought makeup and new clothes. I look great! But I find most people, especially Black males, are still prejudiced against heavy females. To them, we are objects to be laughed at, criticized and avoided. When I am out with my thin friends who are less attractive and less friendly than I am, men fall all over them and completely ignore me. When out alone and I come across men, they look away as though I was a freak. Even my friends, family, TV, radio, magazines and books say being overweight is wrong. Is there any support group especially geared toward helping overweight women cope with a thin is in, fat is out, society? P.F.F., Akron, Ohio

Yes, there is. The group is called the National Association to Advance Fat Acceptance (NAAFA). Their address is P.O. Box 188620, Sacramento, Calif. 95818. While I agree that it is important for you to fortify yourself psychologically against the many forms of disapproval of a society which puts a premium on being thin, I urge you not to get too comfortable with being overweight. Whether thin people look better than fat people is debatable, but it is not debatable that physicians are in general agreement that thin people, for the most part, are healthier than overweight ones and that obesity presents serious health risks. I can think of no better argument for you to resume your battle of the bulge than your own words when you wrote, "I feel better emotionally and physically without the extra pounds."

FROM THE **EBONY** FILES

Dorie Miller, who was honored for his bravery during the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor, receives the Navy Cross from Adm. Chester W. Nimitz during a 1942 ceremony. Despite heavy fire during the attack, Miller, a messman, manned a machine gun and shot down four Japanese planes. He died in 1943 when a Japanese submarine sank his ship, the U.S. carrier *Liscome Bay*.

